

**MOUNT LAUREL FIRE DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 21, 2014

Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #5

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Cornue
2. Commissioner Ridenour
3. Commissioner Roura
4. Commissioner Shestack
5. Commissioner Hamilton
6. Chief of Department Colucci
7. Deputy Chief Burnett
8. Administrator Jones
9. Solicitor Braslow

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shestack at 8:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed.

Public announcements were read by Commissioner Hamilton.

Commissioner Ridenour administered the oath of office to Firefighter Devin Vasoya.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2014-20 "Promotion of Laurence J. Fox to the Position of Captain for the Year 2014". Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Commissioner Hamilton administered the oath of office.

Resolution #2014-21 "Promotion of Alan T. Pine to the Position of Captain for the Year 2014". Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Commissioner Roura administered the oath of office.

Resolution #2014-22 "Promotion of Brian W. McVey to the Interim Position of Fire Official UFD for the Year 2014". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board recessed at 8:13 PM for the families of the newly sworn-in members and officers to take pictures. The Board reconvened the meeting at 8:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the 3/4/14 Special Meeting minutes and the 3/17/14 Regular Meeting minutes that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Ridenour reported that he had reviewed the bills presented to him for payment this month and that he found everything to be in order. Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the payment of April 2014 monthly bills totaling \$457,870.96 that was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MONTHLY REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR:

The Administrator had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. He reported that the 2013 financial audit conducted by Bowman & Company in early April went well and that there would be no findings again this year.

BOARD QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

Chief of Department Colucci apologized to the Board for the late submission of his monthly report and had nothing to add. Commissioner Shestack asked him about a volunteer member that had resigned and asked if there was a specific reason given. Chief of Department Colucci replied that the resignation was military related. Commissioner Shestack asked him about the highway safety table top exercise and Chief of Department Colucci explained that the Training Division has created table top exercise scenarios designed to simulate how apparatus should be positioned on a highway to properly block and safeguard highway operations. This effort was being supported by the Incident Management Task Force that Battalion Chief Evans is a member of. Commissioner Shestack brought up the issue of upgrading our computer systems to the current Windows 8 and 8.1 standard and felt that it was unnecessary to do so at this time. There was a brief discussion about the denial of the New Jersey American Water grant application.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

OTHER MATTERS:

Administrator Jones led a discussion about the Bond Referendum Special Election date and text of the ballot. He had prepared the resolution required for the Board to authorize the conduction of the special election in order to get the process started. He added that a group consisting of Commissioners Shestack & Cornue, Chief of Department Colucci, Deputy Chief Burnett and himself had met with Solicitor Braslow to review special election ground rules and the requirements that we needed to meet and follow. We are required to provide for a vote-by-mail ballot, which needed to be advertised at least 55 days prior to the day of the election which invalidated the May election date that we were shooting for. Based on the rules for picking election dates, we selected July 10 in order to meet these requirements. There was a brief discussion about the special election.

The Board then considered Resolution #2014-23 "Resolution of the Commissioners of Fire District #1 in the Township of Mount Laurel, County of Burlington, New Jersey Providing for a Special Election to be held July 10, 2014". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The resolution was unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

None.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Ridenour commented that he remembered when Captains Fox and Pine first began their careers with the Department as both volunteers and employees. He was happy to see these members rise through the ranks and that it is a real testament to what this Department is all about and he was happy to be part of it. Commissioners Roura, Cornue and Shestack all agreed with his comments.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Fellowship Fire Company President Paul Guelich asked the Board about agenda item 5a and Commissioner Shestack stated that this item has been tabled until the June meeting due to scheduling conflicts. Fellowship President Guelich asked whether there would be a discussion in Closed Session about issues raised by the Volunteer Labor Management Committee regarding volunteers receiving 1099's and how child labor laws apply to our Junior Members. Commissioner Shestack stated that he had spoken with Solicitor Braslow about these issues and he was assured that the way we are handling them is appropriate.

Resolution #2014-24 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:49 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:50 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 9:09 PM.**

Commissioner Roura made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 PM.