

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

January 19, 2015

Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #1

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Shestack

Note: Due to a failure of the recorder to save the audio file of this meeting, these meeting minutes have been created from notes and mental recollections of Administrator Jones.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Roura at 8:06 PM.

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

The public announcements were read by Commissioner Hamilton.

Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to open the Public Hearing on the 2015 Budget that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Resolution #2015-01 “Authorization for the Board of Fire Commissioners to read Budget by Title”. Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Roura informed the audience that the 2015 Budget being considered for adoption tonight by the Board has been approved by the State Department of Community Affairs. He added that this Public Hearing is required by statute to allow the public an opportunity to ask questions and provide comment on the 2015 Budget. He asked Administrator Jones if the State had approved the budget and Administrator Jones indicated that they had after asking a number of questions and requesting supporting documentation on a number of line items.

He asked members of the Board if they had any questions or comments about the 2015 Budget that was before them for adoption tonight and there were none.

He asked the audience in attendance if anyone had any comments or questions and there were none.

Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to close the Public Hearing that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 8:15 PM and the Regular Meeting agenda resumed.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

The Board took recessed at 8:12 PM to allow families of the new members to take photographs. The Board reconvened at 8:19 PM.

- Resolution #2015-02 "2015 Adopted Budget Resolution Mount Laurel Fire District #1, Fiscal Year: From January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015". Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. All members of the Board voted to approve the resolution.
- Resolution #2015-03 "Authorized Signatories for Bank Accounts". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. All members of the Board voted to approve the resolution.
- Resolution #2015-04 "Resolution to Approve the 2015 LOSAP Program Final Certified List of Eligible Volunteer Members". Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. All members of the Board voted to approve the resolution.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There were no meeting minutes ready for approval by the Board.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Ridenour reported that he had reviewed the bills that were prepared by the Administrator and made a motion to approve the monthly bills of December 2014 totaling \$461,228.54 that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve the monthly bills of January 2015 totaling \$652,577.38 that was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. 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. There were no questions or comments from the Board on his report.

MONTHLY REPORT BY THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

The Chief of Department had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. Commissioner Roura commented that there was a lot of activity this weekend with the ice storm and Chief of Department Colucci explained that the Township opened up the EOC to help handle the volume of calls that the County was experiencing.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Relations: Commissioner Ridenour commented that the Architect is preparing the first draft of the building improvement specifications for review in the very near future. He felt that everything was on track and thanked Administrator Jones for keeping things moving along with this project.

OTHER MATTERS:

Commissioner Cornue asked whether we were planning to put together a newsletter for distribution to the residents this year. Administrator Jones stated that the time frame to get this done would be very tight and that we would need to have the content articles done by the end of this week in order to have a shot at getting it out the week before the election. He added that he has reached out to RAS Associates to see if they can assist us again this year in coordinating everything and was waiting for their response. After a brief discussion, the Board members felt that we should proceed if at all possible so that our residents can get the information that they need to vote in the annual election on February 21.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

Solicitor Braslow reported that committees in the legislature was still considering a bill to change our annual election date and that he was scheduled to meet with them again in the near future.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

Resolution #2015-05 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:31 PM.

A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:32 PM.

THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 9:47 PM.

Commissioner Cornue made a motion to authorize the Chief of Department to proceed with the hiring recommendations that he had outlined in the Closed Session for part-time civilian fire inspectors and IGT firefighters that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Hamilton 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 9:56 PM.