

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

September 19, 2016

Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #12

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Ridenour
2. Commissioner Roura
3. Commissioner Hamilton
4. Deputy Chief Burnett
5. Administrator Jones
6. Solicitor Braslow

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner DiPietrantonio
2. Commissioner Shestack
3. Chief of Department Colucci

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

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

Public announcements were read by Commissioner Hamilton.

Deputy Chief Burnett presented CPR Save Recognition awards to the 361-A Platoon crews (Lieutenant Maschke, Firefighter Rafer and Firefighter Presner) and (Lieutenant Maschke, Firefighter Presner and Firefighter Glassman) for 2 separate CPR incidents.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2016-31 "Appointment of Roshan Vasoya to Active Membership in the Fellowship Fire Company #2 and the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Commissioner Roura then administered the oath of office.

The Board took a brief recess at 8:12 PM so that the families of the award recipients could take pictures. The Board reconvened the meeting at 8:16 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the 9/6/16 Special Meeting minutes that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2016-32 "Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Contract with H-GAC for Cooperative Purchasing". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Resolution #2016-33 "Resolution Authorizing a Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement Participating Units". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Roura reported that he had reviewed the September monthly bills and found everything to be in order. He noted that there were 2 large payments this month - a \$316,000 site work contractor progress payment and 2 bond issue debt payments totaling approximately \$575,580. He made a motion to approve September monthly bills in the amount of \$1,107,794.12 that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. 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 employee dental and vision health insurance policy renewals were coming up on 11/1. There were no increases in the vision and life insurance policy plan premiums for 2017. He had met with representatives of the dental policy at their request back in June to review our policy coverage and go over a dental network change that they were making and which we didn't have any control over. As a result of this review, they were able to make a few changes to the coverage that resulted in a doubling of the \$750 lifetime orthodontia coverage to \$1,500 at an average cost increase of less than \$2 per month. He reminded the Board that under the CBA's, benefit coverage changes needed to be reviewed by the Union for concurrence. He felt that they would accept the proposed changes because it would benefit many on the staff that have younger children who will eventually need braces in their teen years. Commissioner Roura made a motion that we move forward with the proposed changes that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Administrator Jones reported that he was still working on the 2017 Budget Proposal and would be meeting with the Chiefs next week. He noted that he was still missing the actual costs for 3 of the biggest items, but hoped to pin them down by early October. The Finance Committee will review the proposal next and he hoped to have that done by the October Regular Meeting.

BOARD QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

Chief of Department Colucci had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. There were no questions or comments.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds: Administrator Jones reported the HQ exterior wall re-painting was underway and should be done by the end of this week or early next week. We will have a 1 year warranty on this part of the project once they finish. He reported that we have a credit from the site work contractor for \$33,281.90 now that the material quantities of roadway reconstruction and paving were known. He estimated that this credit leaves us with about \$150,000 to allocate toward some of the smaller scope-of-work items that we either removed or did not include in the previously awarded contracts.

Personnel: Commissioner Roura reported that he still has to formalize the CBA language changes that have been agreed upon so that final copies of the CBA's can be provided to everyone for a final review and sign-off.

OTHER MATTERS:

Deputy Chief Burnett reported that Chief of Department Colucci had found a resolution reference to an agreement with the Masonville Fire Company and the property title transfer of the Masonville property that he was following up on. Administrator Jones added that this involved a resolution passed by the Board about 16 years ago regarding the transfer of the Masonville property to the Fire District and he needed to find those old files. Commissioner Roura asked whether we could get the information from the County and Administrator Jones replied that the title transfer legal documents were never completed and therefore never recorded by the County. The resolution was passed by the Board but Masonville Fire Company was also required to do certain things to finalize the title transfer and there was a title problem with one of the donated lots that came up and that matter never got resolved. He felt that we would probably have to start all over again with a new title search, legal work and everything.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

Solicitor Braslow reported that he made a request to the Masonville Fire Company President for specific documents and as he understands it they seem to be having a hard time finding what he has asked for.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Roura reported that he spent an hour attending the Fall Festival and that it seemed to be going well and there was a good turnout. He added that he didn't get there in time for the Auto Extrication demonstration but heard that it went well. Commissioner Ridenour said he was also there but had to leave prior to the Auto Extrication demonstration and was happy that we were positioned in a spot where everybody had to pass by our tent in order to get to the vendors.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

Resolution #2016-34 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:33 PM.

A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:34 PM.

THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 8:37 PM.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to promote Captain Santone to the title of Battalion Chief that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to offer conditional employment to Firefighter candidate Edwin Munoz that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

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

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:38 PM.