

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

April 17, 2017

Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #6

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. Solicitor Braslow

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Administrator Jones

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ridenour at 8:04 PM.

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

Public announcements were read by Commissioner Hamilton.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2017-23 "Promotion of Sylvan Einstein to the position of Captain". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board took a brief recess so that the family of Captain Einstein could take pictures.

Resolution #2017-24 "Appointment of Warnesia Travasso to Contributing 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 Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Banquet Award Presentations – Lieutenant Stenton & Firefighter Marty Sezack.

Banquet Award Presentations for Service and Recognition was presented to Firefighter Marty Sezack. Lieutenant John Stenton was absent due to attending live fire training, therefore, his presentation will be awarded at the regular May meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2017 that was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was approved by the Board with Commissioner Hamilton abstaining.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Roura reported that he had reviewed the April monthly bills and found them all to be in order. He did point out that there were two large payments, one (1) was the progress payment on the construction and the other payment was for the next insurance installment. Commissioner Shestack asked how many more progress payments were there. Commissioner Roura replied that this was the last payment and that we are near 99% completion except for the final punch list items. Commissioner Ridenour stated that there might be money remaining from this project. Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the April monthly bills totaling \$624,218.40 that was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MONTHLY REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR:

Deputy Chief Burnett reported that Administrator Jones is on vacation and will be back on the 23rd, there was nothing further to add to his report.

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. He stated he passed on to Mr. Braslow notification in changes to the Rice Act, of which he will review and report at a later date.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None.

OTHER MATTERS:

None.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

Solicitor Braslow stated that the final issue regarding Fire District elections legislation has finally been resolved and will be held from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. He further stated there will be a hearing with the senate committee in May that will consist of budget items at the state level, the assembly sponsors have already signed on to the amendments. We expect the bill to get out of the committee in May, passed by the senate and assembly, and find its way to the Governor's desk.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Shestack reported that softball starts in 2 weeks, Dave and John Barlow have the master schedule so any questions check with them.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Martin Sezack, Firefighter, Fellowship Fire Company Mount Laurel Fire Department: FF Sezack questioned the reason for the delay in receiving the previous year's LOSAP payment after the 1st of April. Commissioner Shestack explained that we are under a temporary budget according to state law from January 1 until the election date and we are only required to pay debt services, required payments to the pension plan, and salaries. Once the budget is approved, which is the 3rd Saturday in February, then the payment comes to the Board for approval then the checks are distributed. He said if the budget doesn't pass then it has to go to town council and that can delay the payment even further. Solicitor Braslow added that you have other things you can spend money on but you are only allowed 14% of the previous year's budget but that doesn't allow for that kind of substantial payment. FF Sezack said it is essential to some of our members, as is the pension system. Solicitor Braslow said the law doesn't look at it that way. Chief of Department Colucci included that would be a good topic for labor management.

Resolution #2017-25 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:31 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:31 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 10:20 PM.**

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 10:20 PM.