

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

January 11, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of The Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, in the Township of South Brunswick was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman William Orchard, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members present: Commissioners Tarnowski, Olson, Rosenberg, Behrend and Orchard.

Members absent: None

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: Mr. Rosenberg requested that the Temporary Budget Resolution be added under New Business.

2010 Budget Hearing: Mr. Orchard commented on the Budget Hearing article on mycentraljersey.com (file copy attached). He noted that there was only one negative comment, all others were favorable. There were no additional comments from those present.

Address From the Public: none

Approval of Minutes:

December 14th Regular Meeting Minutes: Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Rosenberg seconded it. A vote was taken and passed, approving the minutes.

December 8th Special Meeting Minutes: Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Rosenberg seconded it. A vote was taken and passed, with one abstention.

December 21st Special Meeting Minutes: Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Rosenberg seconded it. A vote was taken and passed, with one abstention.

Reports:

Line Activities – Chief Perez reported the following statistics for the year: 305 Total Events, resulting in 4824.2 Total Man-Hours and an Average # of Firefighter's Per Event of 11.970, which is very good. The year rounded out with 225 Total Emergency Calls for a total of 2350.5 Total Man-Hours. There were 32 Training Drills and 44 Total Duty Events. The Chief noted that it was a busy year, not only with fire events but with events aimed at informing and helping the public. Chief Perez stated that based on a calculation available through the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the man-hours volunteered this year by Kendall Park firefighters would cost \$116,746 if they were paid.

The Chief reported that the LOSAP results are completed and will be posted this evening (file copy attached).

Finally, Chief Perez reported that the Santacade was done on a Monday night, due to being snowed out and rained out. There were a couple of complaints about residents not seeing the event. The Chief has addressed the concerns and explained to those residents the reasons.

President – The President reported that Executive Policy Guidelines are available, however, they have not changed from 2009. He stated that the major focus for 2010 will be working to get the addition going and increase membership.

Treasurer's Report & Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg presented his report, which included moving Resolution 10/11 – 10; Adoption of Temporary Budget (file copies attached). A roll call vote was taken on the resolution: Mr. Tarnowski-yes; Mr. Olson-yes; Mr. Behrend-yes; Mr. Rosenberg-yes and Mr. Orchard-yes. The resolution passed unanimously.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that there were a few line items that went over budget, however, the bottom line is fine.

The Commissioners reviewed the Voucher List. There were a few questions which Mr. Rosenberg addressed.

Mr. Orchard reported that Workman's Comp bill for \$11,000+ was paid in November. Liberty Mutual did an audit and indicated that an additional \$13K is necessary. He contacted the agent who will investigate this issue and get back to Mr. Orchard. He noted that the Board has not filed a claim in the last five years, so something is definitely wrong. There will be no payment until the situation is resolved. Mr. Orchard stated that there is a JIF program, which lumps multiple fire districts together to share in costs. He has researched the program and determined that it doesn't seem like a good thing to become involved in, unless the cost is extremely attractive.

Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the Voucher List and presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Secretary – nothing to report.

Fire Coordinator – Mr. Corris presented his report (file copy attached) and noted the following:

- Truck 224's pump problems were identified and associated costs documented. The Board will need to decide how to proceed.
- The Rehab Shelter was ordered. In addition, a misting pan was ordered and it was delivered and waiting for the Squad to pick it up.
- The contract for the Cascade System (fills bottles) needs to be signed off on; the cost is the same as last year. Mr. Corris will sign off but payment will not be made until next month's meeting.
- The contract to Waterway for hose and ladder testing is due in March. Mr. Corris will sign off on it and payment will be made after the budget is approved in March.

Chairman – Mr. Orchard presented a letter from Mr. Braslow (file copy attached) indicating that a resolution authorizing purchase of fire apparatus was not necessary. Only the minutes need to reflect the vote of the legal voters.

Mr. Orchard opened a discussion on what to do about Truck 224. The cost to make the Hummer road worthy would be about \$7500: \$3388 for the pump, \$3500 for tires and \$600 for switches. Chief Perez stated that amount of time the truck is used, does not warrant the cost to repair it. He noted that both Monmouth Junction and Franklin Park have brush trucks, which could be pressed into service if necessary. The Commissioners discussed the advantages and disadvantages of repairing the vehicle. They also discussed whether the unit should be replaced with a new vehicle or a used one.

Chief Perez and Mr. Corris will do some research on options available and bring them to next month's meeting.

Standing Committee Reports –

Fire Company Liaison – nothing to report.

Rescue Squad Liaison – Bill Kennedy is the new president.

Public Relations – nothing to report.

State Association – the next meeting will be in March at Howell

Joint Board – the next meeting will be on February 17th.

Insurance – Mr. Orchard reported that a copy of the Workman’s Comp will be sent to all the fire academies.

Station 23 – Mr. Orchard reported that the Rescue Squad’s fax machine was fried during the lightening strike. The Board agreed to replace it for them.

Unfinished Business:

Rescue Truck – The money has been approved and work will begin again on possible vehicles.

Rehab Truck – Delivery of the truck is up to the Squad.

New Business: Mr. Rosenberg moved resolution 10/11-11: 2010 Adopted Budget Resolution (file copy attached). The budget monies are reflected in the following statement:

WHEREAS, the Annual budget as presented for adoption reflects total Revenues of \$1,108,400.00, which includes amount to be raised by taxation of \$761,106.82 and Total Appropriations of \$1,108,400.00; and

Mr. Behrend seconded the resolution and a roll call vote was taken: Mr. Rosenberg-yes; Mr. Tarnowski-yes, Mr. Olson-yes, Mr. Behrend-yes and Mr. Orchard-yes. The resolution passed unanimously.

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss firematic issues and contracts. They came out at 8:05 p.m.

Address From the Public: none

Adjournment: As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Tarnowski seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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