

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

September 1, 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 7:00 p.m. by Chairman William Orchard, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

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

Members absent: none

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: none

Address From the Public: none

Approval of August Meeting Minutes: Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Reports:

President – Vice President Fredline reported that one new member was read into the Fire Company and Firefighter Melcheski is on a leave of absence until the end of the year.

Mr. Orchard stated that the Company's budget is due at the October meeting. It was noted that the President was starting to work on it this week. Mr. Orchard reminded the Vice President that dates are needed for the Open House and Santacade for the upcoming newsletter. The question remains where these functions will take place, if work begins on the new building on New Road.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg stated that the bill from Liberty Mutual (Workman's Comp) was received today and will need to be paid this evening. He also stated that he has begun work on the 2011 Budget.

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

Secretary – no report.

Fire Coordinator – Mr. Corris presented his report (file copy attached). Areas of discussion were as follows:

- As next year's budget is being prepared, the Board should consider purchasing a fire panel that multi-companies and Mr. Corris could work on, should there be a similar problem as to what occurred this month. The cost would be about \$4K. Mr. Corris stated that the existing system is too sophisticated and costly for Station 23. He indicated he would obtain three types of systems from Central Jersey Security, which could be used to bid out. Mr. Corris will have the information for next month's meeting.
- The auction for Truck 224 ends this week at 6 p.m. So far there have been 26 bids, with 6 serious bidders. The highest bid, to date, is \$26,400.
- NFIRS input will be brought up to date this week.
- New Jersey Fire Equipment will be conducting the SCBA Harness Re-certifications at a cost of \$35/pak.

Mr. Orchard questioned whether the breakdown of preventative maintenance and labor costs were received for Truck 221. Mr. Corris stated that he had talked to Absolute Fire and requested this type of breakdown in the future. As for Truck 221, it was not provided.

Mr. Corris stated that in order for him to be a Designated Purchasing Agent, a resolution must be done during the March reorganization meeting.

Chairman – nothing to discuss.

Line Activities – Chief Perez presented his report (file copy attached) and the following:

- Stats for year: 191 emergency responses; 20 drills and 19 work nights.
- Stats for August: 26, including a structure fire on New Road, which was handled well.
- Regarding the New Road Building Addition: it is hoped to break ground in 4-5 weeks; there is a question, by the Township, if the final site plan was filed and approved. The Chief indicated it was. Permits will be filed once approval is received. Currently, proposals are out for three contractors, which are due back on 8/10.
- Chief Perez stated that the Firehouse will need to be cleaned out, including the District's equipment. Arrangements for storage are under consideration and will include two storage pods: one on loan and the other to be paid for. The Chief noted that the shed will also need to be cleaned out.
- The Fire Apparatus will need to be outside throughout the entire building process.
- Budget numbers will be provided in October.

Standing Committee Reports –

Fire Company Liaison – Mr. Behrend stated that the Newsletter needs the Open House date (will be 10/9 but location not yet decided) and Santacade date needed by 9/9. This normally is the second Sunday of December, which would be Dec. 12th.

Mr. Orchard suggested including an article on Adopt-A-Hydrant.

Mr. Behrend questioned whether there are any pictures of the Fire Company Apparatus. The Chief will check to see if there are any new pictures.

Rescue Squad Liaison - Mr. Tarnowski had nothing to report.

Public Relations – already discussed.

State Association – Mr. Rosenberg will attend this month's meeting in Wildwood.

Joint Board - Commissioners Behrend and Tarnowski attended the meeting. Mr. Behrend stated that the meeting was low key, very indefinite and that the status of Fire Prevention and the Fire Marshall is up in the air. In addition, it was reported that the Municipal Budget was passed, however, Mr. Watkins stated there has been no communication from the County as to the funding issue.

Other issues brought up at the meeting were:

- District 2 has signed a new inter-township agreement.
- Fire Inspectors will take over the sub-codes. Mr. Orchard stated that there are very mixed signals being sent out. In addition, the increased fees on the sub-codes could generate another \$100K.
- Mr. Orchard noted that so far the District has not been approached for the \$40K, which has been set aside.
- There is discussion in the legislature about consolidation of the District, School Board and General elections in November. There is also a suggestion of moving the District election to May, with other non-partisan elections. The cost of these moves has not been determined. Mr. Behrend suggested that the Board draft a letter to the Assembly reps stating the reasons why the District and School elections should not be included in the General election. Mr. Rosenberg stated he will see what he can find out at the State Association meeting.
- Mr. Tarnowski stated that it was brought up that the County does not have an application in for Fire Inspection Certification and until this application is received and approved, nothing will move forward.

- The need for all new homes to have sprinkler systems installed, has been moved to compliance in 2013.

Insurance – Mr. Orchard reported that Liberty Mutual has been paid for the Workman's Comp Policy.

Unfinished Business:

Rescue Truck – There is a Committee meeting tomorrow night and members will be at Wildwood looking at different vendors.

Truck 24/GovDeals: The auction ends 9/3 at 6 p.m.

New Business: nothing

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue; they came out at 8:10 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. Behrend seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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