

The Board of Fire Commissioners

Fire District No. 1

Regular Monthly Meeting

January 5, 2011

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 7:01 p.m. by Vice Chairman, Arthur Tarnowski, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members present: Commissioners Behrend, Olson, Tarnowski, Rosenberg

Members absent: Commissioner Orchard

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: Mr. Rosenberg requested that the Executive Session be moved up to this point in the meeting.

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss personnel matters and came out at 7:12 p.m.

Public Hearing on 2011 Budget: Mr. Rosenberg stated that the Hearing would need to be tabled until January 24th; as the Budget cannot be adopted until that time. The State is short-staffed, therefore, all Districts have been affected. Mr. Braslow was informed and will contact someone at the State, to find out what is actually going on.

A special meeting was scheduled for January 24th for the Public Hearing and the Adoption of the Budget. The meeting will be take place at 7 p.m. at Station 23, due to the construction of the building on New Road.

Address from the Public: no public present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

December 1, 2010 Regular Meeting – Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

November 16, 2010 Work Session – Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Behrend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

December 15, 2010 Bid Opening – Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Behrend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

December 23, 2010 Special Meeting – Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Tarnowski seconded the motion. It was noted that the Resolution number was changed to 10/11 – 18a. A vote was taken and passed.

Reports:

Line Activities – Chief Perez presented his report (file copy attached). He reported the following statistics for 2010:

283 Emergency Incidents; 39 Drills; 29 Work Details...for a total of 5535 Man-Hours.

The Chief stated that 2010 was the busiest year for the Fire Company in a long time. He also noted that the Company had taken on some large projects: completion of all work to acquire a Rescue Truck, planning stage for replacement of the New Road building, new By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures were implemented. He thanked the District for their moral and financial support in these endeavors.

Chief Perez reported that there was a minor accident with the Asst. Chief's vehicle. It was rear-ended; there was minor damage, which will be reported to the insurance company: there were no injuries. The other driver was issued a ticket for careless driving.

The Chief reported on the status of the New Road building. Currently the building is being stripped of furnishings and items boxed up for the duration of the construction. Footings, along with rough plumbing and electric will begin tomorrow. Actual demolition of the interior should begin on February 1st. The District must vacate their office ASAP; Mr. Corris is aware of this. The Fire Company will run out of Station 23, however, they will need to store one vehicle. The Chief noted that all time fames will be affected by inclement weather. He also stated that the Building Committee will be meeting with the contractor every other Monday at 6 pm., beginning January 10th.

President – the following was reported:

- A progress report will be provided each month regarding the building construction.
- Membership numbers are being put together for insurance purposes.
- It was requested that the Fire Company be allowed to hold their monthly meetings at Station 23 for the duration of the building construction. The social gatherings after the meetings will be back at the New Road building. The Board had no problem with this request.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg presented the report (file copy attached). Two resolutions were presented:

- Mr. Rosenberg read and moved Resolution 11/12 – 2: Authorizing Budget Transfers and/or Encumbrances Relative to 2010 Budget (file copy attached). A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Olson-yes; Mr. Behrend-yes; Mr. Tarnowski-yes and Mr. Rosenberg-yes. The resolution was passed unanimously.
- Mr. Rosenberg read and moved Resolution 11/12 – 3: Adoption of Temporary Budget for 2011 (file copy attached). A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Olson-yes; Mr. Behrend-yes; Mr. Tarnowski-yes and Mr. Rosenberg-yes. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. Rosenberg stated that Bank of America has been adding fees on, such as \$.15 to deposit a check. He will discuss this issue with them and remind them that the District has a large amount of money there. If they can't amend their ways, other banks will be looked into.

The Voucher List was reviewed, after which, Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the List as presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Secretary – Mr. Olson stated that it had been brought to his attention that the Closing Date for Petitions should have been January 21st. This correction will be made when the Public Notice is published for the Special Meeting on the Budget Hearing on January 24th.

Fire Coordinator – Mr. Corris presented his report (file copy attached). Mr. Corris will look into a storage box for the SBFD1 server, so it can stay downstairs at Station 23. Mr. Corris reported that he had been in contact with Brunswick Urgent Care to see if they could do a lesser physical for Junior Firefighters; he is still waiting on a response.

Chairman – no report.

Standing Committee Reports –

Fire Company Liaison – no issues at this time.

Rescue Squad Liaison – the check is still being held for the Squad. Mr. Rosenberg will contact Ray Weiss about this.

Public Relations – Mr. Behrend stated that work will begin on the Spring Newsletter. He stated that there will be an article on Dryer Fires, but asked for other ideas. His target date for a first draft will be January 20th.

State Association – no report.

Joint Board – the next meeting will be in February.

Insurance – no report.

Unfinished Business:

Rescue Truck – Mr. Rosenberg reported that he has been in conversations with Mr. Braslow and an Absolute representative and it appears that the District cannot get a Local Finance Board Hearing until February 8th. The finance company will hold the rate until February 11th. Mr. Braslow will review the financial packet and will let Mr. Rosenberg know if it is OK to sign off on. Absolute does not have a problem with this issue. Mr. Rosenberg stated that he is keeping all parties informed of the proceedings.

Salary Resolution – Mr. Behrend read Resolution 11/12-4 – Authorizing Modification of Terms and Conditions of Employment Relative to Employee Tim Corris (file copy attached). Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the resolution and Mr. Tarnowski seconded it. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Rosenberg-yes; Mr. Olson-yes; Mr. Tarnowski-yes, Mr. Behrend-yes and Mr. Orchard was absent. The resolution passed.

2011 Budget Adoption - tabled until the January 24th Special Meeting.

New Business: none

Executive Session – previously held.

Address From the Public - no public present.

Adjournment - As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Olson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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