

# **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1**

MINUTES OF  
FEBRUARY 22, 2010

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by President Nelson at 8:03 p.m. President Nelson announced that the meeting is being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act". Public Notice of this meeting was mailed to the Clerk of the Township of Ocean and posted at the Oakhurst Firehouse on February 25, 2009, and advertised in The Coaster and in the Atlanticville on March 5, 2009.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was observed.

## **ATTENDANCE:**

The following Board members were present: Thomas Reu, James Hiers, Scott Nelson, Russell Williams and Anthony Palmisano. Fire District Administrator Arthur Schenck, Fire Marshal Timothy Smith, Deputy Fire Marshal Chris Pujat, Maintenance/Repair Technician Michael Fiorentino and the Fire Department and First Aid Squad Officers were also present.

## **REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD FOR 2010:**

**President Nelson** - Congratulated Commissioners Reu and Williams on their reelection to the Board. Thank you to all members and residents who came out to vote. The District's 2010 Budget was approved.

Board Clerk Janice Hiers was asked to administer the Oath of Office to Commissioners Reu and Williams.

**Board Clerk Janice Hiers** - Administered the Oath of Office.

**Nelson** - The Board thanks Clerk Janice Hiers for the nice job done on the Election and all related matters.

**Nelson** - Call for nominations for Board President and Vice President for 2010:

**Nomination for President;** Reu nominated Nelson. Hiers seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Nomination for Vice President;** Reu nominated Hiers. Williams seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**President Nelson** - We will continue with the regular order of Business:

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the January 25, 2010 meeting were read. Questions or comments? None. The minutes were unanimously accepted without change.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**EXPENSES:**

Vouchers totalling \$33,360.32 were read and presented by Commissioner Reu for payment. Reu motioned to pay all bills. Palmisano seconded. Questions or comments on the bills.? There were none. Roll call vote : Reu, Hiers, Williams and Palmisano voted in favor of the motion. Nelson abstained from voting on the voucher payable to himself, voting in favor of paying all others. All Vouchers were approved for payment.

**DISTRICT NO. 1 ORGANIZATIONS' REPORTS:**

**Fire Marshal Smith** reported 129 Inspections, including 3 State Registered Establishments, revealing 53 Violations, and 2 Investigations were conducted during the month. Seven CO calls were followed-up, 45 Smoke/CO Detector Inspections were conducted, and \$1,665.00 in fees were collected. He reported on attending various seminars.

**Deputy Fire Marshal Pujat** reported H1N1 shots were offered with poor turn out. Program is probably done now. He reported that he, the Fire Marshal and the Fire Chief have reviewed the OEM Fire Annex and submitted it to the Twp. OEM.

**Maintenance/Repair Technician Fiorentino** congratulated Commissioners Reu and Williams on their reelection to the Board. He thanked the Board for the new turn-out gear he received. He thanked Dan Skinner for his help plowing snow.

**FAS Lt. D. Willms** reported that the Captain will submit the 2009 activity percentage report Tuesday AM.

**Assistant Chief D. Skinner** reported 39 activities for the month. Mutual Aid was given once and received 5 times. Average Response Time was :06:24, for a total of 259.14 manhours. He requested a new set of turn-out gear for Sean Donohue.

**FD Lt. J. Morrow** reported on a planned drill with Districts 36 and 37-1 on Saturday, March 6.

**FD Lt. Sorrentino** reported on a planned Drill on Wednesday presented by the Burn Center. This Saturday there is a drill with WLB FD at Monmouth University on Fireground Operations.

**Commissioner Nelson** acknowledged the Fire Officers request for 1 3/4" hose. Is this enough? What color? Also, what color Hydrant Markers are needed.?

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Hiers** - At the February 1, 2010 Work Session Meeting, the Board Introduced and Passed as a first reading a "Personnel Appointment Resolution: Assistant Fire Inspector". This Resolution was published in full in the Coaster on February 11, 2010, and posted at the Oakhurst Firehouse, on February 16, 2010, as required.

We would now like to accomplish the second reading and final passage of this Resolution, which can be by title. To do so, it is now motioned to approve as the second reading the Resolution entitled "Personnel Appointment Resolution: Assistant Fire Inspector" as previously Introduced, Published and Posted. Reu seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Reu** - Also at the February 1, 2010 Work Session Meeting, the Board Introduced and Passed as a first reading a "Resolution to Establish the Paid, Part-Time Position of Mechanic, and to Appoint a Mechanic". This Resolution was published in full in the Coaster on February 11, 2010, and posted at the Oakhurst Firehouse, on February 16, 2010, as required.

We would now like to accomplish the second reading and final passage of this Resolution, which can be by title. To do so, it is now motioned to approve as the second reading the Resolution entitled "Resolution to Establish the Paid, Part-Time Position of Mechanic, and to Appoint a Mechanic" as previously Introduced, Published and Posted. Hiers seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Administrator is instructed to publish this second reading and final passage of these Resolutions, as required.

**Palmisano** - We finally received NJ DCA Certification of our Adopted Budget on February 11, 2010.

**Williams** - Elevator Service today; Hyd Hose removed to have a new one made. Elevator is out of service. Hope to have back Tuesday or Wednesday.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Nelson** - 2010 Meeting and Work Session Schedule. Each Commissioner has a copy. Motion to approve and advertise as required. Hiers seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Hiers** - New Chief Vehicle: Each Commissioner and the Fire Officers have a copy of the Quote that Tim obtained for us under the NJ State Contract for the purchase of a new Chevy Tahoe: quoted price \$32,446.25. Is everyone satisfied with this vehicle as spec'd? Yes. Hiers motioned to purchase. Reu seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Fire Officers have provided a price quote from East Coast Emergency Lighting, under NJ State Contract Pricing, for Siren/Switch Box, Siren Speaker, Siren Bracket, LED Lights, Light Bar with Intergraded OPTICOM, for a total price of \$3,135.93. Hiers motioned to purchase. Williams seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Fire Officers have also provided a price quote from M & W Communications, under NJ State Contract Pricing, for Radios, Speakers, Scanner, Antennas, Portable Radio Charger, and a two year extended warranty, for a total price of \$4,895.11. Hiers motioned to purchase. Palmisano seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Fire Officers have provided three price quotes for construction and installation of a front console, rear command box, and the installation of all lighting and radio equipment and accessories. The prices received are:

PL Custom Emergency Vehicles	\$8,415.00
East Coast Emergency Lighting	\$6,050.00
1st Priority Emergency Vehicles	\$9,306.00

PL Custom has provided a detailed description of their construction methods and what they will be providing. They provide a Lifetime/100,000 mile warranty on the electrical system for the conversion. The structural integrity of the PL manufactured and installed cabinetry and console is warranted for the life of the vehicle.

PL Custom Vehicles is located nearby in Manasquan. We have had considerable experience with them for many years in the manufacture of our ambulances; service and repairs on all of our apparatus; and this same work was done on the Fire Marshal's vehicle two years ago, with most favorable results.

For these reasons we feel that it would be in the best interest of the Fire District to accept the price quote from PL Custom Emergency Vehicles, even though it is

not the lowest price quoted. Hiers motioned to accept the price quote from PL Custom Emergency Vehicles. Williams seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Palmisano** - The battery in the AED in the meeting room went bad. As we have been doing when the battery dies, we upgrade the AED to a new unit. A new AED has been purchased. The new AED went in the Chief's vehicle and the old unit from the Chief's vehicle went into the meeting room cabinet. The AED in the meeting room is the last of the old Survivalink AEDs that we have.

**Reu** - The Board has adjusted the Salaries of some of the Fire District's Paid Employees for the year 2010, based on the Salary Ranges previously established, as follows: Fire District Administrator \$107,019.00; Fire Marshal \$89,174.00; Deputy Fire Marshal \$59,410.00; Fire Bureau's Administrative Assistant \$19.56 per hour; the Board Clerk \$14,000.00; the Maintenance/Repair Technician \$49,500.00; Mechanic \$38.00 per hour. There are no changes to the other paid positions of the District. Reu motioned to approve. Hiers seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Williams** - FD members expressed the desire to get the SPEED Channel on Direct TV in the Fire Stations. In the past the cost was quoted as rather expensive and thus, cost prohibitive. We inquired again to Direct TV and found that we can now get the SPEED Channel as part of their Sports Choice Package, which includes 40 Sports Networks, for \$12.99/month. As a result, we have added the Sports Choice Package to both stations. The SPEED Channel HD is now available on Channel 607.

**Nelson** - The Board has determined the need to acquire the services of a new Attorney. We have met with and interviewed Joseph D. Youssef, an attorney who is very knowledgeable of, and experienced with, Fire Districts. His fees for service are \$500.00 per meeting, and \$150.00 an hour for other services, plus costs and out of pocket expenses.

To appoint Joseph D. Youssef as Board Attorney, I would like to ask Commissioner Hiers to present the Appointment Resolution:

**Hiers** - Read Appointment Resolution:

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOSEPH D. YOUSSEF, ESQ.  
BOARD ATTORNEY FOR THE YEAR 2010**

**WHEREAS;** The Board of Fire Commissioners is authorized by law to engage the services of an attorney to provide such legal services as may be required by the Board during the course of a year; and

**WHEREAS;** N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 (1) (a) (i) provides that a contract for professional services may be negotiated and awarded without public advertisement for bids if the contract is for “Professional services”; and

**WHEREAS;** N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2 (6) defines “Professional services” as those that are rendered or performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession, whose practice is regulated by law, and the performance of which services require knowledge of an advanced type in a field of learning acquired by a prolonged formal course of specialized instruction and study; and

**WHEREAS;** Joseph D. Youssouf is a duly licensed attorney admitted to the practice of law in the State of New Jersey.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, Township of Ocean, that a contract for professional services be and the same is hereby awarded to Joseph D. Youssouf, Esq. for the year 2010.

Hiers motioned to adopt this Appointment Resolution. Reu seconded. Questions? None. Roll call vote of Reu, Hiers, Williams, Palmisano and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Schenck** - Year End 2009 Financials were reviewed and highlighted.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Equipment and Supplies - FD**..... Hiers

-New CO meters received. 174, 178 and new chief’s vehicle.

**Hydrants**..... FM Smith

-Tim has been in contact with Rolling Meadows Development who has indicated that they will be purchasing Hydrant Markers for all of their hydrants.

**Station Maintenance:**

**Station No. 1:**..... Williams

-Elevator O.O.S. for replacement of a hydraulic hose.

**Station No. 2:**..... Hiers

**Liaison to First Aid Squad**..... Palmisano

-Need receipt page from December Standby.

**-Questions or Comments ?**

**Nelson** - Thanked Dan Skinner for his snow plowing help.

**Nelson** - Re: Fire District Election: We can’t help but note the poor turn-out of the memberships. Only 5 FAS members came out to vote; the Squad should be

ashamed! We thank the FD for your efforts in notifying your members, but even so, the turn-out was still poor.

**Nelson** - Noted receipt of a copy of a letter received from the Township Council, which is a copy of a letter sent to the Squad from Dr. Richard Meltzer, in December, expressing concern over a delayed response to a First Aid Call. There has not been any response to this letter from the Squad. This is unacceptable and not taken lightly by the Board. The Squad needs to respond to Dr. Meltzer immediately, with a copy of your response given to me (Scott Nelson). If the Squad feels that MONOC could have, or should have, transported in this situation, then you should talk to MONOC to find out why they did not, and let us know.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur S. Schenck, Jr.  
Fire District Administrator

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