

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, was held on the above date at Hose Company No. 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Fisher with Commissioners Shelley, Leuliette, Schlindwein and Bowman present. Also, in attendance was Administrator Chesner and Chief Nutt.

Chairman Fisher opened the meeting by reading the following statement by title only on a motion by Commissioner Leuliette, seconded by Commissioner Bowman;

Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the "*Open Public Meetings Act*," has been given by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, of the Township of Moorestown in the following manner: by posting written notice on the Public Meetings Act Bulletin Board in Town Hall on March 2, 2022 and entering the same in the official book of the Fire District in the Municipal Library; emailing written notice to the official newspaper, the Burlington County Times on March 2, 2022, same being published on March 6, 2022, filing written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Moorestown on March 2, 2022; filing written notice with the Clerk of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the schedule of meetings and who has prepaid the fixed charge for such service, and other Social Media Outlets.

Chairman Fisher led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Following that, Chairman Fisher identified the emergency exits.

Chairman Fisher announced that the meeting tonight was posted as a regular meeting, but a good part of the evening would be dealing with the 2023 Budget and the preparation of the same.

Administrator Chesner noted that there were no bids or quotes to discuss.

RESOLUTIONS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator Chesner reviewed with the Board the correspondence that he sent to CareOne of Moorestown thanking them for the Grab and Go Breakfast for the first responders in town.

Administrator Chesner asked that the Board discuss and make a motion on their 2023 salaries. After a discussion on same a motion was offered by Commissioner Leuliette and seconded by Commissioner Bowman to increase their salaries by 10%; \$2,970 for each Commissioner with the Treasurer receiving \$3,190. There being no questions or further comments the motion passed unanimously by all five Board members. Administrator Chesner mentioned that he will prepare the resolution approving same for the October 25th meeting.

Administrator Chesner reviewed with the Board his thoughts on the procedures for the November 14th Chief's Election. Below are the points discussed and decisions made:

- Reviewed and confirmed Active Member List as supplied by Administrator Chesner; from that discussion the Personnel Committee and Membership Committee, at some point early next year, will address the procedures for operationally suspended members and whether they should remain on the active list during that period.
- Election will be held from 7PM till 8PM with Clerk of the Election Schindwein, Commissioner Bowman and Administrator Chesner present.
- Vote by Mail ballots will be available to those who will be out of town; Administrator Chesner will e-mail a ballot to the member. The member will need to send the ballot back via United States Postal Service; ballot shall be received by the start of the election.
- Members that are unable to vote at the polls may cast a vote in the District Office beginning November 1st.
- All Active Members that cast a vote will sign indicating that they voted; Clerk Schindwein and Administrator Chesner will confirm all votes and further confirm that the member is on the Active List as confirmed by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Commissioner Leuliette reminded everyone about Autumn in Moorestown on Saturday, October 8th. He mentioned that since Fire Prevention Night is the week after Autumn in Moorestown that they should expect a larger crowd as we will make sure that those visiting the recruitment booth on October 8th are made aware of Fire Prevention Night.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Public session was opened at 7:38 p.m.; with there being no comment from the public the public session was closed at 7:39 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Bowman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Leuliette, to enter into an Executive Session and that official action may take place. The regular meeting was recessed at 7:39 p.m. to enter into an Executive Session to discuss the 2023 salaries for the district employees and stipends for the fire officers.

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Sections 7 and 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving personnel matters.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the discussion of such subject matter in the Executive Session can be disclosed to the public at such time as is appropriate without prejudice to the interest of the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Moorestown.

During the Executive Session the Board further discussed the salaries of the Shared Services Employees after it was asked that the Shared Services Committee meet again to further discuss the salaries agreed upon during their first meeting. After a discussion on the same, the Board accepted

the committee report as a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Leuliette. There being no further comment or discussion the motion was approved by the five Board members present.

On a motion by Commissioner Leuliette, seconded by Commissioner Schlindwein, the Executive Session was adjourned, and the Board entered the 2023 Budget Work Session at 8:13 p.m.

Administrator Chesner gave a preliminary review of the 2023 Budget and some of the figures to date. Final rates for healthcare for the active employees were discussed; there will be a 21% increase in health benefits for active employees and 13% increase for early retirees. The retiree rates were yet to be released as of the date of the meeting.

Chairman Fisher asked what was in the original contract/lease with the Board and the Moorestown First Aid and Emergency Squad. Commissioner Shelley and Administrator Chesner gave a general overview of the lease and some of the other expenses that the Board agreed to pay for over the years since the signing of the original lease. After a brief discussion on the same, Chairman Fisher asked that administration calculate the amount spent by the Fire District on fuel, utilities and other expenses for the Moorestown First Aid and Emergency Squad over the past five years and report back to the Board.

On a motion by Commissioner Leuliette, seconded by Commissioner Schlindwein, the Work Session was adjourned, and the Board re-entered the Regular Meeting at 8:37 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On a motion by Commissioner Leuliette, seconded by Commissioner Schlindwein, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel J. Schlindwein
Secretary/Clerk