



Winslow Township Fire Department



March 28, 2008
Winslow Township Fire District #1
9 Cedar Brook Road
Sicklerville, New Jersey 08081

SPECIAL MEETING – Graduation and Oath of Office of Career Firefighters/Reading of Resolution 08-30
Authorizing Creation of Paid Position of Battalion Chief

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP, FIRE DISTRICT #1

LOCATION OF MEETING: Winslow Township Municipal Building's Court Room

OPENING OF MEETING:

Chairman Sirolli called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

SALUTE TO FLAG:

All present pledged their Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Gallo, present
Secretary Mammucari, present
Treasurer Pantalone, present
Commissioner Passarella, present
Chairman Sirolli, present

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Honorable Mayor Metzner, Winslow Township	Winslow Township Police Chief Bello
Committeewoman Marie Lawrence	Winslow Twp. Detectives Pizzico and Delfava
Committeewoman Karen Gibson	Chief Midure of Winslow EMS
Committeeman Karl Auwarter	Camden County Freeholder Ripa
	Cam. County Fire Marshal's Office, Chief Hartstein

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

This meeting was being conducted in full compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Law," and that Notice was sent to the Courier-Post and Record Breeze. In addition, due Notice was posted on the Official Bulletin Board of Winslow Township and no smoking was permitted in the room during the meeting. Chairman Sirolli announced where the emergency exits were.

Administrative Office

RESOLUTION 08-30, Authorizing Creation of Paid Position of Battalion Chief- A reading of Resolution 08-30, Authorizing Creation of Paid Position of Career Battalion Chief, was conducted by Chairman Sirolli. A motion was made by Commissioner Pantalone and seconded by Commissioner Passarella to approve the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous and in the affirmative. A second reading of the resolution will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to Enter Into Graduation Ceremony- A motion was made by Commissioner Pantalone and seconded by Commissioner Gallo to enter into the graduation ceremony. All were in favor. Chairman Sirolli turned the meeting over to Chief Dukes.

Chief Dukes opened the graduation by welcoming everyone to the ceremony. He then turned to Father Bradley who provided an invocation. The Camden County Emerald Society provided a posting of colors while Class 2008-001 entered the courtroom.

Chief Dukes presented each member of the graduating class. Captains Rigberg and Friend provided the salute to the flag and held a moment of silence for Fallen Brothers.

Chairman Sirolli announced special invited guests which included the Freeholder Ripa, Honorable Mayor Metzner, Winslow Township Committee members Gibison, Lawrence, and Auwarter, Camden County Fire Marshal Chief Hartstein, Chief Midure of Winslow EMS, Chief Bello of the Winslow Township Police Department, and Detectives DeFava and Pizzico of Winslow Township Police Department. Everyone provided a warm welcome to the special guests. Chairman Sirolli then spoke on the vigorous training the recruits encountered. Mayor Metzner and Freeholder Ripa were announced to perform the Oath of Office for the recruits.

OATH OF OFFICE- Mayor Metzner swore in the recruits with each recruit's family member pinning the badges. Chief Scardino and Chief Dukes presented the recruits with certificates of completing the academy. Mayor Metzner spoke on the commitment of the firefighters and the sacrifices they endure in providing safety to the township residents. Mayor Metzner applauded and thanked the Camden County Emerald Society in their performance during the service. Everyone joined the Mayor with applauding the C.C. Emerald Society. Freeholder Ripa wished the firefighters luck and many prayers.

Chairman Sirolli then summarized the process the Department took in hiring the firefighters; advising that the Department first budgeted five firefighters in 2006, with five additional budgeted in 2007, and four more budgeted in 2008. He then spoke on the planning involved in budgeting for the firefighters. Chairman Sirolli also provided a brief explanation of establishing the management of the firefighters. Recognition was then made to the office staff for their support and help during the process.

Chief Scardino then read letters from the two former Chiefs, Michael Saraceni, and Peter J. Finley Jr., who could not be present for the graduation. Chief Scardino then spoke on the career staff, the work of Captain Rigberg and Friend, the Commissioners efforts in hiring the firefighters, the help provided by Chief Midure of Winslow EMS and the EMS Squad. He also thanked the office staff for their help and support, the Camden County Emerald Society, Mayor Metzner, Freeholder Ripa, Chief Dukes, and everyone who helped during the hiring and graduation process.

Chief Scardino reflected on the four week academy process, stating that he was proud of all fourteen (14) firefighters. Then addressed were the reasons for hiring the firefighters; the 9-1-1 caller. He then spoke on the firefighters encountering many challenges to do right and challenges in their career.

Chief Scardino called recruit class representative, Paul Sickler, to announce the mission statement chosen for the class. Firefighter Sickler announced that the class chose Firefighter Boettcher's mission statement. Firefighter Boettcher read the mission statement. Firefighter Sickler then thanked the families and everyone for their support. A plaque was presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners and trophy to Chief Scardino, by class representative Sickler, on behalf of the entire recruit class. Chairman Sirolli accepted the plaque on behalf of the board. The recruit class also presented plaques to Chief Dukes, and Captains Friend and Rigberg.

The meeting was turned back over to Chief Scardino where he spoke on Chief Dukes' commitment in helping the department. Chief Scardino then presented a plaque to Chief Dukes.

Battalion Chief Promotion- Chief Scardino swore in Marc Rigberg as Provisional Career Battalion Chief of the Department. A Battalion Chief badge was pinned on Marc Rigberg by Chief Scardino. A salute was given to Battalion Chief Rigberg by the recruit class.

Announcement of Lieutenants and Platoon Assignments- Chief Scardino briefed everyone on the lieutenant process developed by former Chief Peter J. Finley. Three outside Chiefs were recruited to institute the testing. Announced were Paul Sickler, Mario Scullan, and Rich Petkevis as the Provisional Lieutenants chosen. Chief Scardino swore in the three lieutenants. Badges were then pinned on the lieutenants. The next announcement was the platoons crews created for scheduling. The "A" Platoon crew consisted of Lt. Sickler, and Firefighters Silcott, Mixner, Monzo, and Lewellen; "B" Platoon consists of Lt. Petkevis, and Firefighters Barry, Farinelli, J. Gordon, and Boettcher (upon his completion of the ACFD Academy training); "C" Platoon consists of Lt. Scullan, and Firefighters Leach, Haas, and C. Gordon. A and C Platoon were noted to be stationed at Sicklerville Fire Company for twelve hour shifts commencing at 0600 hours, at different shift days, B Platoon will be stationed at Cedar Brook Fire Company for twelve hours shifts commencing at 0600 hours.

Chairman Sirolli provided closing remarks, thanking Chief Dukes for his commitment to the department, Chief Scardino for his numerous hours dedicated to building the fire department, planning the academy training and giving 110% to protect the residents of the township. He then thanked everyone who came out to support the department. His final remarks embarked on the mission to proceed with the tools in making the Fire Department the best in New Jersey due to the member's daily dedication.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Sirolli entertained a motion to close the meeting. Commissioner Pantalone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Commissioner Passarella seconded the motion and Chairman Sirolli adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Sirolli announced food and refreshments will follow at Waterford Fire Company. Everyone present was invited to the hall to celebrate.

Prepared by: pj
Reviewed by: VJM