

March 24, 2010
Winslow Township Fire District #1
9 Cedar Brook Road
Sicklerville, New Jersey 08081

WORKSHOP MEETING

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP, FIRE DISTRICT #1

LOCATION OF MEETING: Winslow Township Municipal Building – Court Room

OPENING OF MEETING:

Administrative Clerk Pataky called the meeting to order at 6:30 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:

Terry Osborne, Chief of Department
Dave Patterson, Fire District Solicitor

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:

The meeting was conducted in full compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Law," and that Notice was sent to the Courier-Post, Philadelphia Inquirer 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. Administrative Clerk Pataky then announced where the emergency exits were.

FIRE COMMISSIONER DISCUSSIONS

CHAIRMAN SIROLI

2010 BUDGET CONCERNS/2011 BUDGET PLANNING- Chairman Sirolli mentioned that he had emailed Chief Osborne with his thoughts of putting together 2011's budget for a proactive approach. Concern was made to the sale of the Township's Water Department; if/when it would be sold. A vote will be held in November to entertain such. Should the sale take place, the Fire District could be looking at an additional cost of \$500,000-\$550,000 in hydrant fees. Talks were then held on the bond debt in the amount of \$250,000 plus bond interest that will be paid off in 2010, which will again lower 2011's bond service expenses.

Chief Osborne then spoke on some research of lowering healthcare costs by soliciting information from various healthcare companies. Chairman Sirolli suggested contacting the board of Education for a shared services insurance plan with reimbursement to the School Board. A meeting is presently being scheduled with the Township's Human Resource Department to consider sharing insurance expenses with the Township.

During budget planning discussions, the Board talked about cutback ideas relating to contract negotiations for the next contract period and the mention of the Governor's position on a pension levy on medical benefits for new hires. Concerns were that there would be no way to stay under the cap unless services were to be cut. The Board hoped to have more precise budget numbers by July/August of 2010 to project 2011's budget.

At the close of discussions, Chief Osborne was asked to provide his recommendations on budgetary planning by the next meeting.

SCHEDULING OF MEETING- A meeting with Chief Giorgio of Cherry Hill Fire Department, is scheduled on Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 6:00 p.m. at the Fire District Office.

COMMISSIONER PASSARELLA

STATIONS REPORT

- STATION 1 – A meeting is being scheduled with Treasurer Smith to resume acquisition of the building.
- STATION 4- Station 4 was said to have a complaint with regard to the training trailer and that a meeting is being scheduled to resolve the issue.
- STATION 7- The roof at Station 7 continues to have a leak in the vicinity of the utility room and that arrangements were made with BD Construction to reseal the areas that are leaking.

FREEZE ON SPENDING- Commissioner Passarella communicated his concern with the budget and suggested that the Board impose a freeze on spending other than the everyday expenses. Mention was made by Treasurer Pantalone that there is a present understanding that budget line items are not to be over encumbered. Lengthy discussions were held on this matter with the Board deciding to have Chief Osborne prepare a priority list of line items that are authorized to be purchased through the year. Notification will also be made to the Department that they once the list has been prepared, the Board agreed to notify the Department that, due to budget constraints, they will be following a list of purchases for 2010 into 2011.

TREASURER PANTALONE

LOSAP – The LOSAP appeal period was mentioned to have ended and that all paperwork has been processed. Approximately \$12,000 is expected back in unanticipated revenue. A small discussion ensued on a few members who had not turned in their LOSAP applications.

SECRETARY MAMMUCARI

NO REPORT.

COMMISSIONER GALLO

LONG RANGE PLANNING REPORT – A copy of the report was emailed to the board and provided for the meeting. Commissioner Gallo explained that the committee, upon reviewing the consultant study and additional research, propose that the number of stations be reduced to 3 -4 based on demand. Chairman Sirolli did not agree with reducing the number of stations down to 3 but agreed to improve call times for responses that were extended. The Board wished to have further research exhausted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Sirolli entertained a motion to adjourn the workshop meeting at 7:31 p.m. to conduct the Regular Monthly Business Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Gallo with Secretary Mammucari seconding the motion. All were in favor.

Prepared by: pj

Reviewed by:

Approved during the Regular Monthly Business Meeting of: April 28, 2010

P:\minutes\workshop\3.24.10WORKSHOPMEETING