

Mantua Township Fire District #1
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Meeting
July 21, 2016

Chairman Vacarino called the Meeting to order pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

All in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

On Roll call in attendance were: Chairman Vacarino, Commissioner Hauss, Commissioner Howarth, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Campbell, Solicitor Braslow and Recording Secretary, Susan Weaver. Absent: None.

Chairman Vacarino welcomed Solicitor Braslow to the Meeting.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Hauss to accept the Minutes from the previous monthly meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hauss presented the Treasurer's Report.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Howarth, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills in the amount of (\$13,734.65). The Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones presented the Chief/Training Report June 2016: Total Dispatches: 62, 2 Structure, 5 MVCs, 7 Alarms Systems, 3 Vehicle fires, 6 Mutual aid, 4 Brush, 2 CO/fumes, 6 EMS Assists, 27 incidental, 2 Working Fires, 1 Extrication, 52 Station Responses, 10 Duty Crew Responses. First arriving unit average response time: 3 minutes, 27 seconds.

Daytime Assignments: 8 and Nighttime Assignments: 9

Member Recognition: Kevin Gill has made himself available for calls day and night, making 98.07% of calls in June. He has helped with training of new members and has taken the lead on numerous projects. He stated that he is an asset to the department.

Officer Percentages for Month of June: B. Hauss: 30.76%, J. Hauss: 34.61%, N. Lamana: 53.84% D. Hauss 84.61% and V. Torino: 53.84%.

The Chief reported that they have a live in member, Connor Manning, the rules and regulations were explained to him.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Howarth to accept the Chief /Training Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones presented the Fire Marshal Report: 30 Inspections, 10 initial Inspections, 7 Cooking Suppression Systems. Quarterly Life Hazard Use Registration received from the State as of 7/21/16 is \$4,462.91. Non-life Hazard fees collected as of 7/21/16 is \$4,345.00. Late notices with penalties were mailed out to all businesses not paid to date. He reviewed plans for the new Super WaWa. He stated that he requested two fire hydrates be installed at the Timberline Shopping Center for the new Lidl store.

Fire Investigations: 6/18/16 Civilian Burn, Chestnut Branch Park., 6/23/16 Brush/structure, 455 Bridgeton Pike, 7/12/16 Vehicle, Main Street.

2016 Fire Investigations year to date: Structure Reports: 2, Misc. Reports: 17, Vehicle Reports: 5.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Howarth to accept the Fire Marshal's Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Firefighter Gill presented the Building Maintenance Report:

Union Ave. Station

- Radio room was moved to the old officers office.
- Old radio room is under
- TV's are in, just waiting to be mounted
- TV in crew room had to be replaced.
- New dishwasher is being repaired by GE.

Jackson Road Station

- All the gear and equipment is being sorted and brought back to Union Ave.
- In the process of cleaning out the rest of the old Union Ave. appliances and equipment.

Main Street Station

- Sump pump was installed and working properly.
- Central Carpet installed new carpet tiles.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the Building Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Lt. Hauss presented the Vehicle Maintenance Report from 6/17/16 to 7/21/16:

- All Fire Apparatus has been serviced for the year.
- 2218 repaired burned out quartz light bulb holder
- 2213 replaced bad LDH discharge valve seats.
- 2213 started to reconfigure some compartments to better suit equipment.
- 2203 replaced bad battery.

Equipment Maintenance

- Ladder testing performed on all ground ladders.
- 30 SCBA bottles were sent out for 5 year hydro testing.
- Flow testing on scba's to be set up for their yearly testing.
- All new radios and 2 new mobiles for 700 mhz system out getting programmed.

- Requested to renew training subscription for certifications of \$5,500.00
- Requested to renew the Ford IDS (integrated diagnostic software) for the ford vehicles of \$600.00.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Campbell to renew the training certificate and purchase the Ford IDS software. Motion passed unanimously.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Campbell to accept the Vehicle Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Solicitor Braslow stated that he worked on a Bill with Legislative Services to allow Fire Commissions to have their elections in November without their Budgets voted on. He stated that it has run into snags and it probably won't be passed before the next Election. It would also eliminate public hearings and voting for Capital projects. Sadly Politics has gotten in the way. He stated that they have been trying to come up with a compromise so that the State doesn't make changes that the Commissions don't agree with. The Commission Districts must align with the Election Districts and all must agree to.

The Second item he brought up was that Fire Districts can now cross Municipal and County borders.

The Third item he brought up was that DCA is currently very difficult to work with and are not Fire District Friendly. He stated that he had a very difficult time getting a project for Cherry Hill through for approval, where before it would have been easy to get the approval. He stated that Cherry Hill wanted to rebuild their Burn Building Training Facility; the State wants them to use the Camden County Facility so they would not approve their Budget or allow Financing. They approved the same thing for other Townships. It was sent to the Attorney Generals Office and it was turned down. He stated that they could go on the Finance Board Transcript site, April Meetings, and read what went on. He asked that they call him if they disagree.

Commissioner Hauss stated that he talked to the Solicitor about the Audit and he received a sample resolution for going out to bid.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the Solicitor's Report.

The meeting was opened to the Public.

There being no comments the Public Portion of the Meeting was closed on Motion by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Jones. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones presented Resolutions: #2016-23, Discussion of Personnel Matters.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, second by Commissioner Hausse to adopt Resolution #2016-23. Motion passed unanimously.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM to go into Executive Session.

The Meeting was reopened to the Public: A portion of the Closed Session discussion centered on the Township's finance services to the District. The discussion also centered on a choice between a part-time administrator and a part-time clerk. The Commissioners did not arrive at any decisions to take action at this time.

There was also a discussion on a request for a schedule change for Captain Lamana, it was decided that the Panama schedule would remain in effect.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Susan Weaver, Secretary,
Mantua Twp. Fire District