

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7:05 PM in the Council Chamber in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Tana M. Raymond presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail, fax and email to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin boards in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Frank J. Calandriello, Louis G. Aloia, Joseph Delaney, Glenn A. Mati and Tana M. Raymond

Also Present: City Manager Thomas J. Duch and City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica

A bag piper led the members of the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department into the Council Chamber.

City Clerk Pavlica introduced Mark Tomko, Mayor and Ex-Fire Chief of Wallington, who acted as the Master of Ceremonies. He welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and introduced Assistant Chief Michael Semancik Jr. to lead the meeting in the flag salute.

Mayor Tomko introduced Reverend Edward P. Szpiech, the Pastor of Saint Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church, who offered a Special Invocation.

Mayor Tomko introduced the dignitaries in the audience.

Mayor Tomko called upon Outgoing Fire Chief Michael Colon to conclude Unfinished Business for the Firematic Year 2015:

Garfield Fire Department

Fire Calls 2015

Total Calls: 838

Fire	126
Rescue & Emergency Service Incident	30
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	152
Service Call	226
Good Intent Call	105
False Alarm	169
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1
Special Incident Type	<u>29</u>
Total Incident Count:	838

Chief Colon said that he would like to thank the Mayor and Council, City Manager, City Clerk and Police Department for all their help. He thanked the Recreation Department, the DPW, OEM, Fire Company No. One Members, Mutual Aid Departments, Fire Prevention, all the Fire Department members, the Assistant Chiefs and Officers and a special thank you was extended to his wife and son for helping him achieve his goals in 2015.

Resolution No. 16-1

WHEREAS, Michael Colon, has served as Fire Chief of the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department for the year 2015, and

WHEREAS, the services rendered to the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield have been such as to be above and beyond the ordinary call of duty, and

WHEREAS, under the jurisdiction of Michael Colon the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department maintained its high standard of service and devotion to duty with respect to protection of life and property of the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield, all of this be in keeping with the highest traditions of the standards set for fire service, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Garfield desires to express its appreciation to Fire Chief Michael Colon for his singular devotion and dedication to the fire service of the City of Garfield,

Special Meeting January 7, 2016, Continued

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that Fire Chief Michael Colon be and is hereby commended for the excellent service he has rendered to the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Garfield during his tenure as Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the City of Garfield and that a certified copy of this approved resolution also be included in the personnel jacket of Fire Chief Michael Colon.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

(Sgd) All Five Councilmembers

At this time, Mayor Raymond presented outgoing Fire Chief Michael Colon with a framed copy of Resolution No. 16-1 and presented and pinned the Ex-Chief Badge on outgoing Fire Chief Colon.

City Clerk Pavlica administered the Oath of Office to Glenn A. Mati as the City Council Liaison to the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department.

City Clerk Pavlica administered the Oath of Office to the Line Officers of Fire Company No. One, followed by Fire Companies No. Two, Three, Four and Five.

In accordance with an election held by the Garfield Volunteer Fire Department, City Manager Thomas J. Duch appointed the following to their respective offices for a term of one (1) year:

Michael Colon	Fourth Assistant Chief
Jason Tani	Third Assistant Chief
Michael Semancik	Second Assistant Chief
Edward Morano	First Assistant Chief
James Kovacs	Fire Chief

City Clerk Pavlica administered the Oath of Office to the Assistant Fire Chiefs.

Councilman Delaney administered the Oath of Office to Fire Chief James Kovacs, as his granddaughter Katarina held the Bible, surrounded by his wife, Anna, and sons, Jim and Kyle and daughter Vicky.

Chief Kovacs commented on how Fire Department wives are very important and he presented a bouquet of flowers to his wife.

City Manager Thomas J. Duch then presented Chief Kovacs with the Badge of Fire Chief of the City of Garfield.

Fire Chief Kovacs thanked everybody who came out to this evening's ceremony. He said that he especially wanted to thank the members of Fire Company No. Two who had the faith in him to support him and elect him. He said that he will do the best job he can. He thanked all the members of the Garfield Fire Department. He said that one thing he has learned is that it can be pretty lonely to stand on that street corner if nobody comes around but the Garfield Fire Department always comes out. He thanked everybody most sincerely. He thanked his family, especially his wife who has always been there for him and he appreciates it. He said that she is a big help. He thanked his two sons and daughter. He said that he never thought that they would follow in his footsteps but they have and they have done a great job and he is very proud of them. He once again thanked everyone and he again thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mayor Tomko thanked everyone for coming to this evening's ceremony and invited everyone to the Royal Manor located at 454 Midland Avenue, for refreshment and fellowship.

The Fire Department Chaplain, Reverend Edward Szpiech, concluded the ceremony with a Special Benediction.

Special Meeting January 7, 2016, Continued

At 7:45 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Calandriello moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mati duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 5

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Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK