

**BTFD #2 SPECIAL MEETING
AND
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

May 2, 2024

Meeting Called to Order 7:00 pm at the BTFD#2 Fire House.

Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence observed

ROLL CALL By Chair Jim Cann:

Robert Bennett, Absent, George Chidley, Present, Andrew Law Present, George Gareis, Present, James Cann, Present.

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:

By Secretary (see Agenda)

RECOGNITIONS:

Lt. Askenstedt commended by the Board of Commissioners for completing 19 years of service.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

NONE

REPORT BY CHIEF BTFD#2:

Report by Chief, Robert MacFarland (BTFD #2) for April 2024 dated May 1, 2024 was presented.

Residential Structures on Dunns Mill Road have been utilized for fire training prior to demolition with owner permission.

Chair, Cann requested a motion to accept the Chief's April 2024 Report. A motion was made to accept the report by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Gareis. A ballot was taken and all members present approved the motion to accept the Chief's April 2024 Report.

Chief MacFarland requested Fire Commission approval to send a FF to attend a training seminar in Syracuse New York. The seminar would provide valuable training on such topics related to motor vehicle accidents including forcible entry. The course is offered on September 24-27, 2024. The registration cost is \$1,007.00 and room \$728. The Commissioners inquired on the means of travel to the conference and the Chief explained that the FF will utilize a BTFD#2 vehicle and gas card for travel to the conference. The Commissioners agreed that the training would benefit the attendee who would then be a resource within the Department. A Motion was made by Andrew Law and Seconded

by George Chidley to send the FF to training in Syracuse NY. A roll call vote was held and approved by the members present.

The Chief reported that the Oxygen Recharge System has been installed and is presently in service and he will report back next month if there are any issues in its access or operation at the next meeting.

The Chief requested authority to fill out all Motor Vehicle Commission paperwork for the BTFD#2 vehicles. A Motion was made by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Chidley to delegate the Chief the authority to complete NJMVC paperwork. A roll call vote was held and approved by the members present.

REPORT BY TREASURER:

Treasurer was absent and his report for April was presented by Chief MacFarland. The April Finance Report listed **24 bills** totaling **\$44,909.86**. Chair, Cann requested a motion to accept the Treasurers April 2024 Report. A motion was made to accept the report by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Gareis. A ballot was taken and all members present approved the motion to accept the March 2024 Report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chair James Cann updated the BTFD#2 Fire Commissioners on discussions with NJ State Legislator Herb Conaway and NJ League of Municipalities on sponsoring legislation that would address the taxation issues related to warehousing in Bordentown Township and around the State. It would appear that modification of the CNC# Budget Form would be an effective means to correct the shortfall related to local tax abatement. The Chair will continue to work with the NJ State Legislator.

Chief MacFarland reviewed the need to enter into an agreement with Diworth Paxson to provide legals and bond service. Resolution 2024-0022 was presented to the BTFD#2 Fire Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Law explained that entering into an agreement would allow the Firm to complete their review of the purchase forms, applications for credit and bonding as well as federal funding applications for the new fire truck. A motion was made by Commissioner Andrew Law and seconded by George Chidley. A ballot was taken and all members present approved Resolution 2024-0022.

Commissioner Andrew Law thanked Bordentown Township Clerk Maria Carrington for her assistance in locating the 1978 Resolution for formation of the BTFD#2 allowing us to complete Federal Forms for funding the Fire Truck.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief requested approval for the following expense:

- Fire Flow Equipment Testing **\$3,210.00**

TOTAL \$3,210.00

Motion made by George Chidley to approve the expenditures and Seconded by George Gareis. All members present approved the motion.

Commissioner George Chidley requested that the Chief look into a matter related to pension underpayment notices received by FF staff. Chief indicated that he would investigate the matter and report back next month.

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION:

Resolution 2024-0021 to go into Closed Session to discuss labor contract matters. A BTFD#2 Commissioners determined there was no need for a closed session. A Motion was made by Andrew Law to go into closed session and Seconded by George Gareis. All members present approved the motion at 7:27 pm.

MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

At 8:07 pm Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to open the meeting to the public, A motion was made by George Chidley to open the meeting for public comment and was seconded by Andrew Law. All members present affirmed the motion to open the meeting for public comment. There were no members of the public present. Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to close the meeting for public comment. A motion was made by George Chidley to close the meeting for Public Comment and seconded by Andrew Law. All members present affirmed the motion to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Chair, Jim Cann requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Gareis. All present balloted to affirm the motion and the meeting was closed at 8:10 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED on June 6, 2024

Robert Bennett, ABSENT

George Chidley __X

George Gareis ___X

Andrew Law ___X

James Cann ___X

CERTIFIED BY:



George Chidley, Secretary
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners



James Cann, Chair
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners