

**BTFD #2 REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
November 7, 2023**

Meeting Called to Order 7:06 pm at the BTFD#2 Fire House.

Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence was observed

ROLL CALL By Chair Jim Cann:

Andrew Law Present, George Gareis and Jim Cann,

Absent George Chidley and Fred Freda

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:

By Acting Secretary Law (see Agenda)

STAFF MILESTONE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

Staff Milestone recognition - FF Krzewinski has completed 14 years of service

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Chairman Jim Cann requested that if the Board Members present were satisfied with the accuracy of the minutes. The Chairman requested that a motion to approve the corrected Minutes for October 3, 2023 Regular Meeting be adopted.

Motion to approve corrected minutes by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Gareis. A ballot was taken and all members present affirmed the motion to approve the corrected minutes of October 3, 2023.

REPORT BY CHIEF BTFD#2:

Report by Chief, Robert MacFarland (BTFD #2)

The following bullets were presented as highlights to a written report prepared by Chief MacFarland dated November 2, 2023: A copy of his written report is attached.

- Administration – Banking we need an additional signatory for our Banking and checking
- Budget – Commissioners for budget committee Jim and Fred
- 2024 Commissioner Salary Resolution #2023-0020 was move to be adopted by Law seconded by Gareis and approved by all commissioners attending.
- Grants – Resolution No. 2023-0019 grant application to be submitted to NJ Department of Community Affairs in the amount of \$74,582.02. The resolution was read into the record. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Law seconded by Commissioner Gareis. This motion was approved by all members in attendance. Note: the original given to Chief and to be signed by Commissioner Chidley upon his returned to the Township on Friday the 10th.

Treasurer Report by Chief MacFarland

The Chief submitted the monthly bills Fred Freda, Commissioner presented expenditures report with 17 Bills totaling \$ 24,984.88. A motion was made by Andrew Law to pay all of the bills and seconded by George Gareis to accept the report. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chair, Jim Cann reported on the meeting October 19 at 2:30. Referencing the assessment of our warehousing facilities and the tax base reimbursement to the Fire District. Eileen Fayhee Attorney for the Township, Mike Theokas Administrator and Glen McMahon CTA. The tax revenue shortfall was the subject. No resolution on this issue was concluded. The reasoning was the adopted approval for the warehousing did not include any additional funding to the Fire District under state statute.

The Chair indicated that we may have to increase our budget over the 2% cap in order to effectively operate fire service for FY 2024. Whether this will meet the criteria set forth by NJ Department of Community Affairs is unknown at this time.

In addition, the Commissioners are requesting our attorney to attend the next meeting to further this discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief, Robert MacFarland (BTFD #2) requested the following items in the Chief's Report under "Needed Purchases" in the amount of \$3,358.27 be approved for payment:

TOTAL \$3,258.27

See listing of items attached to these minutes.

A motion was made by Andrew Law to pay all of the bills listed above and seconded by George Gareis. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to accept the Chief's requested items and pay the bills.

OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

At 7:40 pm, Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. A motion was made by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Gareis to open the meeting to public for comment. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to open the meeting for Public comment.

There were no members of the Public present requesting comment. Chairman Jim Cann requested a motion to close the meeting for Public comment. A motion was moved by Law and Seconded by George Gareis. A Ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion.

MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Resolution 0018 authorizing a meeting not opened to the public read by Acting Secretary Law
Motion made by Commissioner Andrew Law **at 7:30 pm to go into closed session** to hold a meeting not opened to the public to discuss matters related to Collective Bargaining Agreements. Minutes to be released after conclusion of Personnel Matter.

Motion Seconded by George Gareis. All members present affirmed the motion to go into closed session.

At 8:11 pm the BTFD#2 Commissioners reconvene the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING and invite attendees into the meeting room.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Chair, Jim Cann requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by George Chidley and Seconded by George Gareis. All present balloted to affirm the motion and the meeting was closed at 8:12 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED on November 7, 2023

Robert Bennett, Not eligible to vote

George Chidley, Not eligible to vote

Jim Cann _____

George Gareis _____

Andrew Law _____

Prepared by:

Andrew Law, Acting as Secretary on November 7, 2023

CERTIFIED BY:

Secretary
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners

Chair
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners