

**Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District #4  
672 East Main Street  
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807**

**Minutes of Regular meeting  
1/26/2016**

**Location of meeting:**

Finderne Fire House  
672 East Main Street  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

**Members:**

Allen Kurdyla  
Anthony Ranallo  
Carl Spolarich  
Paul Orloff  
Samantha Ally

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Finderne Fire Department was called to order at 7:30 pm on January 26, 2016 by Allen Kurdyla.

- Salute to the flag.

**I. Roll call of Attendance:**

Allen Kurdyla; Anthony Ranallo; Carl Spolarich; Paul Orloff; Samantha Ally  
Chief Daniel Ally; President Steve Spolarich - absent; Finderne Rescue Squad – not represented

**II. Review of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the December 29, 2015 meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion to accept the minutes as printed– P. Orloff; Second – A. Ranallo

Motion unanimously approved

**III. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was distributed and reviewed. (see attached)

Motion to accept report– A. Ranallo; Second – P. Orloff

Motion unanimously approved

**IV. Presentation of Fire Department and Rescue Squad Bills**

The monthly bills were distributed and reviewed in the treasurer's report.

- A. A. Kurdyla questioned what budget bills came out of
  - a. All bills with a 2015 date came out of 2015. 2016 bills come out of Temporary budget
  - b. Bill total for month was \$16,491.33

Motion to pay bills– P. Orloff; Second – A. Ranallo;

Motion unanimously approved

**V. Correspondence**

- A. ISO Rating Questionnaire
- B. Nomination Petition for Office of Fire Commissioner for Paul Orloff
- C. Nomination Petition for Office of Fire Commissioner for Anthony Ranallo
- D. VFIS payments re: Ms. Kocanowski
- E. VFIS newsletter
- F. Letter from District Compliance re: Building a website

## VI. Old Business

### A. Election

1. Only petitions received were
  - i. Paul Orloff
  - ii. Anthony Ranallo
2. Legal notice for absentee ballot posted
3. Legal notice for election posted
4. Ballots for election submitted to county print shop
5. Budget amount to be printed on ballot confirmed by C. Spolarich
6. Election tellers (2) must be appointed
  - i. Chief Ally will serve
  - ii. Chief Ally will find another registered voter to serve and inform secretary

### B. Budget

1. Resolution #
  - i. Roll call:
    1. Orloff – yes
    2. Ranallo – yes
    3. Ally – yes
    4. Spolarich - yes
    5. Kurdyla – yes

### C. LOSAP

1. All account values received from Nationwide
2. A. Kurdyla working with attorney
3. A. Kurdyla will contact members with personal funds at Nationwide
  - i. Mr. Braslow approved splitting district funds from personal funds
4. Vested Accounts vs. Non Vested accounts
  - i. Money was pulled out of both types of accounts without the board knowing
  - ii. Board was going to go after non vested accounts, but since it cannot be done uniformly, it would be unfair.
    1. Mr. Braslow agreed with position to walk away
5. Chief Ally asked how close is the department to being done?
  - i. A. Kurdyla said they were close and hoped to have process completed by June
  - ii. 2012, 2013 and 2014 would be under old system to qualify for LOSAP payments
  - iii. 2015 is under new LOSAP points system
6. A. Kurdyla and T. Delameter to review roster quarterly

### D. Apparatus

1. A. Kurdyla asked for an update from Chief Ally
2. Chief Ally called Fire and Safety
  - i. Fire and Safety said they complete the work as asked
  - ii. When they find more problems, they compile a list
  - iii. The items on the list are not fixed due to communication failures
  - iv. Chief Engineer Bereheiko will be handling this situation
  - v. A. Kurdyla said we used to get a list
    1. Chief Ally says we do not get a list
    2. A. Kurdyla asked Chief Ally to follow up with Mr. Russell as he says there is one list and if the FD does not act upon the list neither will Fire and Safety.
    3. Mr. Russell offered to send a list to the Board of Fire Commissioners
      - a. A. Kurdyla declined the offer since the Chief should be handling this communication and then report it to the board
    4. Chief Ally will ask D Bereheiko to call Fire and Safety to send two lists – Chief and Chief Engineer

### 3. 102

- ~Valve replaced
  - ~Somerset Springs repaired rear brakes
3. Chief Ally spoke with Chief Engineer Bereheiko about doing minor repairs in house to prevent unnecessary bills
  4. D. Bereheiko contacted PDQ about storm supplies
  5. 101
    - ~New batteries take care of hard starting

- ~Small antifreeze leaks were fixed
- 6. Tower
  - ~Rear passenger tire fixed – valve stem leaking and tire off rim – Richie's Tires were called once it was determined it could not be fixed by FD
  - ~Ordered valve stems to put on trucks to use correct tire pressure and tire fill
- 7. Car 30
  - ~Running very rough
  - ~Will send to Nextec
- 8. Mini Pumper
  - ~Emergency Brake lever must be looked at – bent very badly

## **VII. New Business**

- A. Generator
  - 1. A. Ranallo wants to change run times from weekly for an hour to bi monthly for 30 minutes to save gas and extend life of generator
  - 2. C. Spolarich asked if it should be run with a full load?
  - 3. A. Ranallo said that test is not done since there is no shut off switch
  - 4. Pull main breaker

## **VIII. Chief's report**

- A. Apparatus Report
  - 1. See above
- B. Fit Test
  - 1. Second part of Fit Test administered January 25, 2016
  - 2. Some members unable to attend due to weather
- C. Storm Jonas
  - 1. 8 calls = 101 man hours
  - 2. 10-12 fire fighters for standby crew = 432 hours
    - i. Members shoveled sidewalks, apron etc.
  - 3. A. Kurdyla said to check with Bridgewater OEM to see what reports they need. Contact Jamie Edwards
- D. Snow Plowing
  - 1. For storm was terrible
  - 2. Hindered any response
  - 3. DPW Director Forsythe said residential roads were not a priority – just main roads
    - i. What main roads are township roads in Finderne?
    - ii. Phone number given to request a plow truck for a call
    - iii. Plow truck requested twice – no truck showed
  - 4. Many residents were very upset and asked what can be done by Chief of Department
  - 5. This system will not work
    - i. Residents want fire trucks to be able to respond to houses
  - 6. Chief proposes purchasing a truck that can be used to plow
    - i. Simple fire can grow out of control with a delayed response
    - ii. A. Kurdyla said there is a procedure in place
      - 1. Need to address that first
      - 2. P. Orloff said call township
      - 3. S. Ally informed board of new procedure to call county for a dispatch – not DPW
      - 4. Chief Ally – a truck should have been assigned
      - 5. A. Kurdyla – all accusations should be put in writing
    - iii. No apparatus was able to respond – only Chief's vehicle and Mini Pumper were able to navigate snow
- E. Budget 2017
  - 1. Chief proposes looking into paying fire fighters per call
  - 2. Objections from board
  - 3. Chief Ally dissatisfied board could not contribute \$500 to top 10 responders
    - i. A. Kurdyla reported Mr. Braslow advised not to make such a contribution with tax payer money
    - ii. Chief Ally requested a copy of said correspondence since Mr. Braslow approves this behavior in other towns
  - 4. Chief Ally asked the board to consult Mr. Braslow about paying members \$3.50 per call

- i. Can it be put into next year's budget
    - ii. C. Spolarich said no due to 2% cap, needing to generate a 1099 and pay income tax
  - F. W. Medrano failed FFI three times
    - 1. Can he be put into February class?
      - i. Yes
    - 2. Will he have to pay?
      - i. No- will not be made to pay due to failure
    - 3. A. Kurdyla asked Chief Ally to call Allen Querec
      - i. Can Mr. Medrano take the test another way since he passed EMT school he should be able to pass FFI
      - ii. Chief Ally will follow up

#### **IX. Presidents report**

None

#### **X. New Members**

Brian Noll starts Fire Fighter I end of February

#### **XI. Resigning Members**

Christopher Myers

#### **XII. Status Changes**

None

#### **XIII. Finderne Rescue Squad Report**

- A. December calls 44
- B. 2015 total call 410 (46 mutual aid)

#### **XIV. Public Portion**

- A. Motion to open to the public at 8:24 pm by S. Ally; Second – A. Ranallo;  
Motion unanimously approved.

#### **XV. Adjourn meeting**

- A. Motion to close the meeting at 8:25 pm by A. Ranallo; Second – C. Spolarich;  
Motion unanimously approved.

The public meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on February 23, 2016 at  
Finderne Fire House  
672 East Main St  
Bridgewater, NJ 08806

respectfully submitted by: Samantha Ally