

**Board of Fire Commissioners
FIRE DISTRICT # 4
672 EAST MAIN STREET
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
August 25, 2021

Allen Kurdyla called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: A. Kurdyla, S. Fell, C. Spolarich, M, Long, P. Orloff – absent.
Finderne Fire Department: Chief Michael Jannone, President Steve Spolarich

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Minutes from prior meeting June30, 2021, accepted as presented.
Motion to accept: S. Fell
Second by C. Spolarich
Unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Spolarich read the Treasurers Report and is attached.
He reported a balance of \$1,339,167.00 in checking and \$561,448.13 in the money market Accounts.
Motion to accept: M. Long
Second by: S. Fell
Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Treasurer Spolarich presented the bills which he had reviewed with Chief Jannone.
Total of bills to be paid is \$ 680,218.24 – \$634,000.00.
Bill list is attached to Treasurer's report
Motion to pay the bills was made by S. Fell
Second by: C. Spolarich
Unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Methfessel & Werbel, regarding Kristina Friday vs. Daniel Ally. (See attached)

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Kurdyla and the accountant reviewed the payment options for the new rescue. It was agreed upon the 50\50 option is the best option, giving us a credit and expected delivery for early 2023. Please see attached.

Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes - 1 not present.

Carl Spolarich - yes
Sharon Fell - yes
Paul Orloff - absent
Mijett Long - yes
Allen Kurdyla - yes

MOTION TO OPEN DISCUSSION: S. Fell, Second by. C. Spolarich.

David Bereheiko, 7 Deerhead Drive, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 - Commended the payment option with saving money.

Michael Jannone, 641 Vosseller Avenue, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 - Thanked all involved and stated the project is under budget.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE OPEN DISCUSSION: C. Spolarich, second by, S. Fell, unanimously approved.

Second order of old business:

Offer on the table for Rescue 30 of \$65,000.00, as is, with delivery possibly in the next couple of weeks.

Engine D/C 1985

There is a recoup of 20% with the current sale price.

The sale of this truck, we will have support from the surrounding departments.

Chairman Kurdyla supports this offer.

Motion to Open the discussion to the public: S. Fell, second by. C. Spolarich, unanimously approved.

David Bereheiko, 7 Deerhead Drive, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 - Doesn't support the decision to sell the rescue. Stated the rescue has all the tools to save lives and without this truck in service it would be placing lives in danger. His concern is that the \$65,000.00 is more important the lives of the community.

Kevin Bereheiko, 7 Deerhead Drive, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 - Does not support the decision to sell the rescue. Stated that he feels it is detriment to the community.

Adele Ruggini, 37 Marie Avenue, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 - Stated she is shocked about the decision to sell the rescue.

Matt Smith (Deputy Chief of Bound Brook 23), 606 Hayward Street, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 – has no doubts in the capabilities of this Fire Department. His concern is the “golden hour” and having to wait for support. He doesn’t want to see the department with “our pants down”.

Chairman Kurdyla – wants the record to reflect, the decision to sell the rescue was not made in hast. Many discussions have taken place with Chief Jannone over a lengthy period.

Motion to close the open discussion to the public: S. Fell, second by C. Spolarich, unanimously approved.

Chairman Kurdyla addressed the board and asked for concerns:

Sharon Fell – wants to be sure that selling the rescue is the right decision for the lives of our community.

Mijett Long – also expressing concerns about coverage and the ability to serve the community.

Chief Jannone is confident with the support of the surrounding communities.

Roll Call Vote of the sale of the rescue: 4 – Yes – 1 not present

Carl Spolarich – Yes
Sharon Fell – Yes
Paul Orloff – absent
Mijett Long – Yes
Allen Kurdyla – Yes

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business

CHIEFS REPORT:

38 calls, 818 Man Hours – Report attached

- Tower 30 is at Fire & Safety for preventative maintenance. An issue with its radiator was detected and it is being repaired. The siren speaker covers were also installed. Estimated time of return to service is September 3rd.
- Rescue 30 is at Stewart and Stevenson to trouble shoot the stalling issue. Rescue 30 did not stall while at Stewart and Stevenson. All other apparatus is in service.
- An intake gate valve on Engine 301 needs replacement. Replacement is expensive but based on the age of the valve it would be better to replace it. Chief Engineer Bereheiko and Chief Jannone are researching these intake valves. Chief Engineer Bereheiko will shop the valves at the convention and purchase them if he can get a deal.
- Mike Sena of Mike’s Towing and Recovery is assisting us in acquiring vehicles to accomplish Man in Machine, stabilization and extrication training.

- Man in the Machine training is schedule for October 23, 2021, sponsored by Rescue Products International Inc.
- Chief Jannone asked the board members if they know anyone wanting to dispose of old lawnmowers or snow blowers for training to please let the Chief know.
- On Wednesday, August 11, 2021, Engine 301 and Car 30 attended the send off for our 14U Bridgewater Tournament Baseball team to the championship series in Iowa.
- First Choice Safety Equipment corrected the issues with our Gemtor belts. The Milwaukee tool order should be delivered next week.
- Chief Jannone's term is coming to an end, he would like a debit card for future approved purchases made by the fire department.
- Mike Farrell from Top Floor Tactics states he has not received payment for the June class. Chief Jannone ask that the original check be voided, and a new check issued.

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT REPORT:

President Spolarich reported the following:

- New Member – None
- Resigning members – Dave Peachwood – took a leave of absence.
- Status changes – None

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Commissioner Kurdyla opened the meeting to the public at 8:30 PM

Motion by Commissioner M. Long

Second by Commissioner S. Fell

Unanimously Approved.

No one to be heard.

Motion to close by M. Long.

Second by S. Fell

Unanimously Approved at 8:31 PM

Adjournment

Chairman Kurdyla asked if anyone had any other business to be heard

Motion to close by S. Fell

Second by M. Long

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mijett Long
Secretary