

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 15, 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: C. Spolarich, S. Fell, M. Long, Allen Kurdyla, Paul Orloff – absent.
Finderne Fire Department: Chief Michael Jannone, Deputy Chief Tommy Marshall, Jr.,
President Steve Spolarich, Ex-Chief Mike Montone.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Minutes from prior meeting November 17, 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 \$1,278,658.50 in District Accounts.
Motion to accept: S. Fell.
Second by: M. Long.
Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Treasurer Spolarich presented the bills which he had reviewed with Chief Jannone.
Total of bills to be paid is \$150,189.34 + 1,029.14 for the utility truck insurance.
Bill list is attached to Treasurer's report
Motion to pay the bills was made by S. Fell.
Second by: M. Long.
Unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- HGAC contract (attached)
- Settlement of Kristina Fridy vs. Daniel Ally (emails attached)
- Re-sale agreement to use county fuel pumps (attached)
- Letter to Bridgewater Township submitting the compensation for members of the commissioners. (attached)
- Courier News affidavit – stating Tara Hamm as the Director of Public Notices. (attached)

OLD BUSINESS:

- Fridy v. Ally has been settled out of court. Because of the settlement there was no need for Chairman Kurdyla to be summoned to court. The agreed settlement is \$150,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution to continue to use the county fuel pumps.
Motion: M. Long.
Second: C. Spolarich.
Unanimously approved.
- Authorizing Budget transfers
 - Move \$2200.00 from account 710.0 (Admin. Cont.) to account 702.0 (Elections)
 - Move \$2500.00 from account 710.00 (Admin Cont.) to account 707.0 (Rent).

Motion: C. Spolarich.

Second: S. Fell.

Unanimously approved.

Recorded vote to authorize Budget Transfer: (attached)

Commissioner Kurdyla - YES

Commissioner Long - YES

Commissioner Spolarich - YES

Commissioner Orloff - Absent

Commissioner Fell - Yes

- Annual Budget 1/01/2022 – 12/31/2022
 - Tax rate is static
 - Budget increase is \$50,894.00

Motion: S. Fell.

Second: C. Spolarich.

Unanimously approved.

Recorded vote to approve the Annual Budget:

Commissioner Kurdyla - YES

Commissioner Long - YES

Commissioner Spolarich - YES

Commissioner Orloff - Absent

Commissioner Fell - Yes

- Demarco has requested to withdrawal from the LOSAP funds. (attached)
As per the Lincoln Financials rules, a withdrawal cannot be made before the required Five years of service. In accordance with the rules, we must deny the request. Chairman Kurdyla has drafted a letter to Mr. Demarco explaining as such.

Motion to deny request: S. Fell.

Second: C. Spolarich.

Unanimously approved.

CHIEFS REPORT:

44 calls, 600 Man Hours – Report attached

- All Milwaukee equipment has been received.
- Captain Fernandez is working on completing the Man in the Machine kit.
- Steve Neiderle is putting shelves in the Ramsey Street Bay to store the equipment for Rescue 30.
- SCOTT masks and the CAFS, are still pending.
- Chief Jannone has forwarded the signed receipt of the list of equipment on loan to Somerville Fire Department.
- Utility 30 graphics are complete. The emergency lighting and equipment has been ordered.
- Car 30's thermal imaging camera charger should be installed by the end of next week. The original charger malfunctioned and shorted out.
- Engine 301 was damaged on Saturday while participating in a fire department function. Damage was to the passenger's side rear of the vehicle. The parts include the exhaust pipe, rear chrome fender skirt, two lower chrome trim pieces and the rear compartment door lock release and handle. The damage doesn't seem to need require service from the body shop.
- Engine 302 and Tower 30 both have new intake valves on their pumps.
- Engine 303 has had two more Halmatro rams installed in the back compartment. The battery charger on the truck is malfunctioning and should only be plugged in intermittently. A new battery charger and foam level gauge have been ordered, both repairs should be completed by the end of the month.
- Tower 30 is once again experiencing issues with a radiator leak. Chief Jannone has spoken with Fire & Safety and that our truck and a truck from Cranford as experiencing the same issue. The repair is being done at no charge to the district. The truck is likely to be out of service for a minimum of three weeks.
- Chief Jannone would like to recognize the members that responded to the fatal fire in Somerville last Friday. The outcome was devastating but our members showed resilience and a determination never to give up on locating the victim, which they did. He couldn't have been prouder of them.
- Finally, Chief Jannone thanked the board for the support over the last four years. Collectively as a group we accomplished many things. Thank you for the privilege of being the Chief.
- Deputy Chief Marshall has submitted the grant for air packs, totaling \$225,196.38. An answer about the grant will be in October 2022.

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT REPORT:

President Spolarich reported the following:

- New Member – Tom Ruscetta (re-instated)
- Resigning members – Sal Palenta, in good standing & Ronald Demarco, not in good standing.
- Status changes – 2022 List of Officers. (attached)
Motion: S. Fell.
Second: C. Spolarich
Unanimously approved.
- Installation Dinner will be held on January 8, 2022, at Venue 518.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Commissioner Spolarich opened the meeting to the public at 8:41 PM

Motion by Commissioner M. Long.

Second by Commissioner C. Spolarich.

Unanimously Approved.

Mike Montone – 65 Pearl Street, Bridgewater, NJ 08807.

Chief Jannone has done a great job and I wish to congratulate.

Motion to close by: C. Spolarich.

Second by: M. Long.

Unanimously Approved at 8:43 PM

Adjournment

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

Motion to close by: C. Spolarich.

Second by: M. Long.

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mijett Long
Secretary