

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
February 28, 2024

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

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Allen Kurdyla, Carl Spolarich, Debbie Brightbill - absent, Mijett Long and Sharon Fell.

Finderne Fire Department: Chief Keith Binkley, Deputy Chief Fernandez, Captain Ruscetta, President Steve Spolarich, and Administrator Jannone.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Minutes from prior meeting January 17, 2024, accepted as presented.

Motion to accept: Sharon Fell.

Second by: C. Spolarich.

Unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Attached)

Treasurer Spolarich read the Treasurers Report and is attached.

He reported a balance of \$1,151,295.46 in all District 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 Administrator Jannone.

The total of bills to be paid is \$ 61,202.15.

Bill list is attached to Treasurer's report.

Motion to pay the bills was made by: M. Long.

Second by: S. Fell.

Unanimously approved.

CHIEFS REPORT:

37 calls, 565 Man Hours – Report attached.

- Alarm Activations – 17
- Motor Vehicle Fire / Accidents – 4
- CO Alarm – 4

- Elevator Emergency – 1
- Culinary Mishap -1
- Odor of Natural gas – 2
- EMS Lift Assist – 1
- Chemical Smell – 1
- Mutual Aid Calls - 5

Rescue 30 – The parts needed for the repair of the shelf compartment should be in this week. There is no timetable for its return to the district.

Tower 30 – The board received correspondence from Administrator Jannone for items needed during the annual preventative maintenance. Chief Binkley recommends that all repairs be done while it is at Fire & Safety.

Annual Testing and maintenance – We received quotes for our annual testing for pumps, ladders, hose, and Tower 30. Chief Binkley recommends that we use Reliant for hose testing and U.L. for the pumps, ladders, and Tower 30.

- Reliant Hose Quote: \$3,790.00
- U.L. Ladder, pumps, and Tower 30 Quote: \$5,896.52.

Art Akins Quote for Detailing all apparatus: \$4,775.00.

Precision Motorsports for Carwell Chassis Rust for all vehicles: \$3,500.00.

Air Gas Technologies Quote for preventative maintenance on the air system for Rescue 30: \$3201.00

Equipment - Quote received for repair of the Aircair exothermic cutting torch on Rescue 30 was received from Air Gas technologies. The torch needs a new battery as well as preventative maintenance, totaling \$772.80.

Motion to purchase new battery for exothermic torch for \$772.80: S. Fell.

Seconded by: C. Spolarich.

All in favor.

Chief Binkley would like to purchase 2 more high rise packs set ups for Tower 30 and Engine 301. This will complete the upgrades on the high-rise packs, and they will be identical.

Motion to purchase 2 High Rise packs for Tower 30 and Engine 301 for \$9,506.78: S. Fell.

Seconded by: C. Spolarich.

All in Favor.

Chief Binkley would still like Commissioner Kurdyla to speak to Mr. Braslow about the radios in the captain's office and old equipment the Fire Department would like to get rid of. Commissioner Kurdyla said he will reach out to Mr. Braslow.

Chief Binkley would like to discuss the upcoming transition of the new radio system and what needs to be purchased prior to the end of 2026. Administrator Jannone will provide and update at next month's meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Board approved purchased from Chief Bindley's report.
- Will provide numbers for the mobile radios at next month's meeting.

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT REPORT:

- New Member – None
- Resigning members – Eric Lowmaster
- Status changes – None

Exhaust System – The Fire Department agrees with paying for it up front. They would like it paid back over 5 years.

The Fire Department would like a 2% increase in the rent per year. Commissioner Kurdyla will have Mr. Braslow draft a resolution.

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR RENT AND EXHAUST SYSTEM:

Carl Spolarich - YES

Sharon Fell - YES

Debbie Brightbill - absent

Allen Kurdyla - YES

Mijett Long - YES

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Vote results – Total votes cast – 135, Commissioner Spolarich – 121, Commissioner Long- 113, Budget Yes 103, No 28.
- Letter from Reliant Insurance – requesting us to pay monthly and request a monthly attendance of fire fighters.
- Commissioner Kurdyla asked Mr. Stuby to investigate other insurance companies.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Unofficial report of election results:
 - 135 votes cast.
 - 100 – yes budget
 - 33 – no budget
- Our Budget was approved by the State of New Jersey.
- Fire Fines collected: \$3,200.00.

Commissioner Kurdyla stated he would have liked to see more voting participation from the fire department.

Thank you to Christian Fernandez and Mike Misciagna for manning the elections.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Commissioner Kurdyla opened the meeting to the public at 8:00 PM.

Motion by Commissioner: Carl Spolarich.

Second by Commissioner: Sharon Fell.

Unanimously Approved.

Hearing none and seeing none.

Motion to close the meeting by: M. Long.

Seconded by: S. Fell.

Unanimously approved at 8:03 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Motion to close by: C. Spolarich.

Second by: Sharon Fell.

All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mijett Long
Secretary