

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

## Board of Fire Commissioners

### MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #3**

**JUNE 1, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Chairman Prunier called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Ed Prunier, Vice-Chairman Joseph Civitello and Commissioners Ron Onofrio and Neill Salamack. Commissioner Laura Burich arrived at approximately 7:20 p.m.

**OTHERS:** Officers: Interim Fire Chief Anthony Esposito, Deputy Chiefs Mark Amatrudo and Robert Colangelo, Captains James Buda and Corey Roberts, Lieutenants Kyle Conklin and Matt Gillis and Council liaison Ronald Pelliccia.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Vice-Chairman Civitello made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Onofrio, to approve the Minutes from the April 13, 2023 meeting. On roll call vote, three in favor and one abstention by Commissioner Salamack due to his absence from that meeting. Commissioner Onofrio made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Salamack, to approve the Minutes from the May 4, 2023 meeting. On roll call vote, three in favor and one abstention by Chairman Prunier due to his absence from that meeting.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS:** Reports were received and distributed from Interim Fire Chief Anthony Esposito and Deputy Chiefs Mark Amatrudo and Robert Colangelo. The Fire Marshal's report for May will be mailed. Deputy Chief Colangelo noted that the repairs to the Tower truck have been completed.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Pension: Commissioner Salamack reported that the pension was in good standing at the last Pension meeting.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF:** Interim Chief Esposito informed the Board that there was a fully involved fire a few days ago and there was an excellent turnout from all the Companies working together. There were fireworks and ammunition stored in the barn which made it difficult. He noted that two new members are now fire police since two members resigned. Due to issues with the health insurance, they may go back to using Occupational Health. Company #4 received a free Trex bench and the other Companies will get a new bench as well. He has received an email that there are free tickets to the GHO for fire and police personnel, if anyone is interested. Co. #1 will be in attendance at an event on June 11<sup>th</sup> for families who have lost a parent or sibling. He noted that Woods Hill Road is closed in the Wallingford section due to the replacement of a bridge. Mutual aid will be provided to them during that time. There is a mandatory EMS training session on June 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be new fobs issued to members as well as an app for cell phones to access the doors at the firehouses. ARPA funds covered the cost of this conversion.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Radio Project Update:** Interim Chief Esposito discussed the ongoing radio project which was stalled due to the lack of approval for the lineup of channels to be used on the towers. Norcom now has received state approval but the system probably won't be ready until September. **Ambulance Update:** Previously the Board approved the purchase of a remount F450 ambulance for \$219,500 from R. Enterprises LLC in Tennessee subject to town purchasing guidelines. The town has determined that it must follow the bid procedures. It is on the agenda for the Town Council meeting next week and he has alerted R Enterprises LLC in Tennessee that they must bid the vehicle. The vehicle will be subject to in-house inspections prior to taking possession of the vehicle.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Potter inquired about the cell tower on Commerce Drive and Interim Chief Esposito informed him that Norcom didn't approve that cell tower as there were more ideal locations. Councilor Pelliccia noted that even though the town is paying Ochenkowski approximately \$30,000/year now to use the tower, there will be considerable savings when the town goes on the state system for approximately \$12,000/year. There will also be a benefit from other towers in the area that are using the state system. The wiring for communications was not done at the new high school as they will wait until it's completed and then perform tests to see if it is necessary. Company #1 will be redoing their floor so various apparatus will be parked outside.

**WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION:** There is a possibility that the July meeting may be cancelled.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Commissioner Salamack and seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane B. Whalen*

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk