

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

## Board of Fire Commissioners

### MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING, COMPANY #4

AUGUST 7, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Chairman Prunier called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Ed Prunier, Vice-Chairman Joseph Civitello and Commissioners Laura Burich, Ron Onofrio and Neill Salamack. **OTHERS:** Officers: Interim Fire Chief Anthony Esposito, Deputy Chief Robert Colangelo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, John McFarland from Vintech and Council liaison Ronald Pelliccia.

Recommendation of Paramedic/EMS Personnel RFP: The Proposal results for the RFP#924003 were discussed. Three proposals were received and discussed. There is a \$208,000 difference between the bids from Northeast Fire Rescue and Vintech. Councilor Pelliccia inquired as to the length of the contract that the prices will stay the same and he also wanted to know the total increase between this budgetary shortfall and the shortfall due to adding the second paramedic. He advised the Board that he would need to know this information to present it to the Council. Lately, there have been issues with Vintech concerning payroll, etc. Commissioner Salamack made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello, to award bid #924003 to Northeast Fire Rescue. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Discussion & Action re: Reconsider Recommendation for Ambulance RFP: Interim Chief Esposito discussed Bid #923002 regarding the pricing of a new ambulance. Originally it was decided to award the bid to R Enterprises in Tennessee but upon further review, it was noted that the price only covered an ambulance without any custom painting or graphics or a power seat. There were additional charges for various other items as well. Interim Chief Esposito has reservations about awarding the bid to R Enterprises because the final cost originally presented didn't include these other items. Eastford Fire and Rescue bid a price of \$297,902.00 which would include these items. After much discussion, Vice-Chairman Civitello made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Salamack, to table the recommendation for the ambulance RFP. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Discussion & Action re: Fire Inspector Training Class: Interim Chief Esposito informed the Board that there has been some interest in the Fire Code Inspector program offered by the Office of Education and Data Management. He noted that the class began accepting applications today until September 25<sup>th</sup>. He would like to send in applications for two individuals who are interested. There is no charge for this class which begins November 6<sup>th</sup>. There was a question as to whether or not the individual has to be offered a job after the class is completed and it was decided that it's not mandatory. Commissioner Onofrio made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burich, to approve the reservation for two spots in the fire code inspector class. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Discussion & Action re: Language for Treat/No Transport Press Release: A draft press release was presented by Interim Chief Esposito regarding invoices for individuals who are treated but refuse transportation by ambulance. After some discussion, it was decided that the press release requesting that invoices be forwarded to the individual's insurance company was acceptable to the Board. Commissioner Salamack made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello, to approve the

language for the press release regarding treatment but no transport subject to the town attorney's approval. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Discussion & Action re: Appropriation Transfers for 2022-2023: Interim Fire Chief informed the Board that 99.9% of the budget was expended and/or encumbered. He noted that eight accounts were overdrawn and will need transfers in the amount of \$64,720.00. Vice-Chairman Civitello made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Salamack, to approve the budget transfers for 2022-2023. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Civitello and seconded by Commissioner Salamack to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane B. Whalen*

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk