

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

## Board of Fire Commissioners

### MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER/SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Chairman Burich called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Laura Burich, Vice-Chairman Joseph Civitello and Commissioners William DellaCamera, Ron Onofrio and Neill Salamack. **OTHERS:** Officers: Interim Fire Chief Anthony Esposito, Deputy Chiefs Mark Amatrudo and Robert Colangelo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captain Jake Conway, Lieutenants Kyle Conklin and Alex Stasiuk, John McFarland – Northeast Fire Rescue, and Ron Pelliccia, Council liaison.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chairman Burich requested that anyone wishing to make a comment to please make comments only and not to air grievances which should go through the chain of command first before being brought to the Board. Councilor Pelliccia invited all members to attend the Town Council meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. A plaque will be presented to former Chairman Ed Prunier in appreciation of all of his service to the Board.

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Commissioner Salamack made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Onofrio, to approve the Minutes from the October 5, 2023 meeting. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:** A thank you letter from the Northford Community Church was received and read. They were extremely appreciative for the department's participation in their Fall Festival. They appreciated the fire trucks and the educational activities that were organized for those attending.

**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 October listed 205 calls.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Chairman Burich encouraged the use of the Commission Committees. Bylaws/Rules & Regulations: A letter was sent to the Town Manager requesting that the attorney review the Bylaws. Communications: Vice-Chairman Civitello reported that the towers are in place and the rest of the equipment has yet to be mounted but hopefully will be completed by December. Future Planning and Projection: There is a meeting scheduled for next month. Pension: Commissioner Salamack noted that the meeting has been changed from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Burich requested that a letter be sent informing the Town Manager that Commissioner DellaCamera is the alternate on the Pension Committee. Ambulance: Interim Chief Esposito displayed the graphics with a few changes that had to be made for the new ambulance. Commissioner Onofrio made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Salamack, to approve the graphics as presented for the ambulance. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF:** Interim Chief Esposito informed the Board that the Fire Marshal's office went to multiple schools for Fire Prevention Week. He ordered the sensory kits and each Company should put one in the rescue vehicles. The garden that was requested for Company #4 was approved. The Explorer Post has four new members. He asked the Companies to inform him of the Santa runs that might be scheduled. He noted that the new roof for the ambulance would cost approximately \$32,500 and approximately \$1850 to power wash the building. He informed the Board about a fire on Old Post Road with minimal damage to the structure. He was pleased with the phenomenal response by every Company attending.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** **a. Discussion re: Changing Retirement Age 70 requirement including physical requirement** and **b. Discussion re: Drone Policy** were tabled. **c. Discussion re: Update on Tower Truck:** Deputy Chief Amatrudo informed the Board that the status of the truck is continually being monitored and the inspection trip is set for November 13 through 15<sup>th</sup>. Captain Conway and two officers will be trained on the truck as well as inspecting it while at the factory. It is expected that there will be a delivery of the vehicle in early January.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **a. Discussion & Action re: Use of Town laptops for BOFC:** Chairman Burich inquired as to whether or not the Board would like to continue the use of the town laptops. It was agreed that they will be returned to the Town. **b. Discussion & Action re: Schedule of Meetings:** The meeting schedule for 2024 was decided. Vice-Chairman Civitello made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Onofrio, to approve the meeting dates for 2024 as presented. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Commissioner Salamack, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane B. Whalen*

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk