

**TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

ORDINANCE NO: 014 - 2024

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
BYRAM AMENDING SECTION 22-3 ENTITLED "QUALIFICATIONS FOR
MEMBERSHIP" OF CHAPTER 22 ENTITLED "FIRE DEPARTMENT TO ALLOW
MEMBERSHIP BY OUT OF TOWNSHIP FIREFIGHTER IN GOOD STANDING"**

Purpose Statement: The purpose of this Ordinance is to allow nonresident firefighters in good standing to become members of the Byram Township Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Byram as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 22 entitled "Fire Department" is amended in its entirety to state as follows:

**Chapter 22
FIRE DEPARTMENT
§ 22-1. Establishment.
§ 22-2. Composition.
§ 22-3. Qualifications for membership.
§ 22-4. Required duty; record.
§ 22-5. Exempt certificates.
§ 22-6. Application for membership.
§ 22-7. Officers.
§ 22-8. Duties of the Chief.
§ 22-9. Assistant Chief.
§ 22-10. Firematic Committee.**

§ 22-1. Establishment.

The Byram Township Volunteer Fire Department is hereby created and established with jurisdictional boundaries coextensive with the boundaries of the Township.

§ 22-2. Composition.

The Byram Township Volunteer Fire Department shall be composed of one company to be known as the "Cranberry Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Inc."

§ 22-3. Qualifications for membership.

No person shall hereafter become a member of the Byram Township Volunteer Fire Department or any unit thereof unless he or she is:

A. At least 18 years of age; [Amended 5-19-2008 by Ord. No. 5-2008]

B. Physically fit to perform the duties of a fire fighter, evidenced by a certificate to that effect by a practicing physician issued after examination for that purpose; and

C. A resident of the Township of Byram for a period of at least six months, unless the applicant is already a fire fighter in good standing in another department in which case the six-month requirement shall be waived.

D. If Applicant is already a fire fighter in good standing in another department the residency requirement is waived if applicant lives in a bordering town within (5) five miles of one of the (3) three firehouses; Cranberry – 225 US Highway 206, Lackawanna – 181 Lackawanna Dr or Lee Hill - 34 Lee Hill Rd. The six-month requirement shall be waived.

§ 22-4. Required duty; record.

Every member of the Fire Department shall in each and every year perform at least 50% of duty, to be composed of actual attendance and duty at fires and drills, and a record shall be kept of such attendance and duty by the Chief of the Fire Department and reported to the Township Clerk annually.

§ 22-5. Exempt certificates. [Amended 5-19-2008 by Ord. No. 5-2008]

Every member of the Fire Department shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate when it appears that at the time of this appointment he /she met the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:14-56 and was not under 18 or over 45 years of age and that he / she had performed during a period of seven years 60% of fire duty in each year respectively and as otherwise authorized under N.J.S.A. 40A:14-56.

§ 22-6. Application for membership.

Every person seeking to join the Fire Department shall make application to the fire company, and upon his/her successful clearance of a background check performed by Byram Township Police, successfully being accepted and sworn in at a township council meeting and formally read into to membership in accordance with the bylaws of the company, he /she shall become a member in good standing of the Fire Department. The members of the Department shall be deemed to be exercising a governmental function, and the adoption of this section, which has been at the request of the Byram Township Volunteer Fire Department, shall be deemed to constitute a contract as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-68.

§ 22-7. Officers. [Amended 5-19-2008 by Ord. No. 5-2008]

There shall be a President, Vice President, Chief, Assistant Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected by the members of the Department. The Department shall also elect any other office as provided for in the bylaws of the Department.

§ 22-8. Duties of the Chief.

The Chief of the Department shall be in command of the Department and all fires and fire-related incidents within the Township of Byram. The Chief shall be responsible for all decisions involving the use of fire apparatus within or without the Township. He / She shall be responsible for the actions and direction of the Department when officially summoned for duty and for other matters pertaining to the overall efficiency of firefighting within the Township. The Chief shall render an annual report to the Township Manager covering such firematic activities as fires and drills, etc., but may delegate a subordinate to keep such records.

§ 22-9. Assistant Chief.

In the absence of the Chief, the Assistant Chief of the Department shall assume all responsibilities of the Chief.

§ 22-10. Firematic Committee.

The Firematic Committee for the Department shall consist of the Chief, Assistant Chief and such other officers as may be designated in the bylaws of the Department.


Section 2. Severability. If any part of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the Ordinance. Any ordinance or portion thereof that may be inconsistent with the ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency.


Section 3. Repealer.

All existing Ordinances and/or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistency, repealed.

Section 4. Effect. This Ordinance shall take effect in the time and manner prescribed by law.

Introduced: September 3, 2024 Adopted: September 17, 2024


Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk



Alexander Rubenstein
Mayor

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

	Councilwoman Franco	Councilman Gallagher	Councilman Proctor	Councilman Roseff	Mayor Rubenstein
Motion	✓				
2nd			✓		
Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No					
Abstain					
Absent					

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

NOTICE is hereby given that Ordinance 014-2024 was introduced and passed first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Byram, held at the Byram Township Municipal Building, Mansfield Drive, Byram Township, New Jersey, on the 3rd day of September 2024. The said ordinance was further considered for final adoption at a meeting of the Township Council of The Township of Byram, held at the Byram Municipal Building, 10 Mansfield Drive, Byram Township, New Jersey, on the 17th day of September at 7:30 p.m. at which time all persons were given the opportunity to be heard. It was finally passed and adopted and will be in full force in the Township according to law.


Cynthia Church, RMC
Township Clerk