

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING, COMPANY #4

JUNE 29, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Prunier called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Ed Prunier, Commissioners Kenneth Ash, Andrew Campion, and Anthony DellaCamera. Vice-Chairman Joseph Civitello was absent.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Captains Jason Conway and Steve Torino, Lieutenants Tom Hart, Corey Roberts and Gene Stabile, Foremen Kyle Conklin and Nick DaCunto. Council Liaison Mayor Michael Doody. Other Interested Parties: Town Manager Michael Paulhus, Councilors Rose Angeloni and Anthony Candelora.

Chairman Prunier explained to all in attendance that this is a special meeting and only agenda items will be discussed. He also informed all that there is no "public hearings and comments" item on the agenda so the audience will not participate.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION RE FIRE HOSE AND BUDGET:

Chief Seward distributed documents to the Board that explained issues with fire hose. He outlined the duties of the Board and OSHA regulations and requirements. He noted that all the hose was tested on June 8 and 9th. It is typically tested in the Spring. The potential needs for fire hose are determined after testing is completed. He met with Town Manager Paulhus and Finance Director/Treasurer/Deputy Chief Esposito to request contingency funds for hose replacement.

The Chief described his background qualifications and noted that he is well versed in standards required for fire service. The hose is required to be tested annually and some of the hose has been identified as failing or not conforming to the standards. He then removed all the hose from the apparatus and kept only the hose that was compliant and then distributed it amongst the apparatus. He discussed the various sizes of hose that we have and how much is compliant and what is needed. Currently the department had 14,255 feet of various size hose and after being tested, it was determined that only 10,050 feet is compliant with standards. At present, the department is ISO compliant. The three brush trucks need 3000 feet of hose and the total cost would be \$7650.00.

OSHA endorses Rule 5A1 which states that a workplace must be maintained free from recognized hazards. Any hose greater than twenty-five years old shall be removed from service. Hose that is used for a fire must be washed and cleaned and dried prior to putting it back on the fire truck.

The Chief wanted to stress compliance with regulations and standards. He advised the Board that seventy lengths of hose are going to be expired. Chairman Prunier questioned why the Board wasn't notified sooner of this issue. Going forward, the Chief will have all the Captains keep a listing of the hose in their firehouse and check it periodically. He also wanted to know how the town will dispose of the failed hose, as it is town property. The Chief requested that he be provided with written instructions on a fire hose replacement schedule from the Board.

Deputy Chief Esposito spoke about the current budget and stated that \$31,000 from contingency funds was approved for hose replacement.

Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion that the Board approve one-half of the monies needed from fiscal year 2016-2017 budget which would be approximately \$14,000 and the remaining \$14,000 to be obtained from fiscal year 2017-2018 budget. The Chief stated that he would need \$27,115 to replace all the hose that is no longer compliant. Deputy Chief Esposito stated that the contingency funds have already been approved for this year and that next year's budget has already been set. Commissioner DellaCamera retracted his motion.

Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the \$31,000 allocated from contingency funds be used to purchase hose after going through the bid process. On roll call vote, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner DellaCamera, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the BOFC adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk