

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING, COMPANY #4

APRIL 12, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello and Commissioners Laura Burich, Andrew Campion and Gene Stabile. Vice-Chairman Ed Prunier was absent.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Assistant Chief of Training Mark Amatrudo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains Jason Conway, Kevin Lyon, Ken Neubig and Steve Torino, Lieutenants Kyle Conklin, Eric Emanuelson and Corey Roberts, Foremen Nick DaCunto and Alex Shamp, and John McFarland from Vintech. **OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:** Council liaison Mayor Michael Doody.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Captain Torino informed the Board of two events for Company #3 – the annual fund drive (door to door) beginning May 7th and the sale of hot dogs and hamburgers on April 28th for the Agricultural Commission. Captain Neubig notified the Board of the golf tournament scheduled for Company #2 on June 22nd.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Commissioner Campion made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burich, to approve the Minutes of the March 1, 2018 Regular Meeting. On roll call vote, all in favor.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: A thank you letter from the Police Commission Chairman to Chief Seward was read regarding the Chief's comments at a Council Budget workshop. They were very appreciative of his support for the needs of the police department and fire department.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's reports were distributed listing 159 calls for March. Reports were received from Deputy Chief Esposito and Assistant Chief of Training Amatrudo.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Insurance: Chairman Civitello requested that the Insurance Committee meet with the Risk Manager and the Town Manager to determine workers' compensation for the members when they are fundraising. The Chairman also requested that the Committees get proactive. Purchasing and Budget: It was noted that \$10000 was cut from the Budget line item 320 and \$25000 was cut from the ambulance subsidy amount. Commissioner Burich made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stabile, to sanction the Company #3 fund raising event scheduled for May 7th and the food event with the Agricultural Commission on April 28th and the Company #2 golf tournament on June 22nd and anything pertaining to those three events. On roll call vote, all in favor.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward distributed his monthly report dated April 11, 2018 and the outline is attached hereto. He reiterated that he has to abide by OSHA and NFPA guidelines. He is hopeful that the fire and police departments will work together for the benefit of the Town. He thanked the members for their hard work and dedication. The Chief gave updates on the status of the apparatus and the hose for each Company. He would like to purchase iPads for the Rescue trucks which will help with data collection. The installation of In-Band repeaters on several Engines is completed. He discussed the PPE bids of which there were two bidders – Firematic for Honeywell and Shipman's for Globe products. The basic differences

between the two products are the flexibility of the fabric and the size of the pockets. There are options for black and gold colored coats. It was noted that the PPE's are only good for ten years from the date of manufacture. There is no available gear in the fire department to distribute. There was much discussion on choosing the color of the coat. A motion was made by Commissioner Campion, seconded by Commissioner Stabile, to award the bid for PPE to Shipman's for the gold/tan coats. On roll call vote, three in favor and there was one abstention by Commissioner Burich. The status of surplus equipment was discussed. Descriptions of the items, pictures of the items and the minimum price are needed to list the items on the website. It was noted that the high pressure fuel pump on 44 was replaced and approximately \$24,000 has been spent for the maintenance on the ambulances to date. The bid for the EMS Personnel was discussed and there were two bids submitted. The two vendors were Emergency Resource Management and Vintech. The Chief recommended that the Town continue to use Vintech as they are the known vendor and to start on July 1st with a new vendor could be extremely complicated. Commissioner Campion made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burich, to award the EMS Staffing contract to Vintech. On roll call vote, all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Discussion and Action re: Declaring Surplus Equipment: This item was briefly discussed during the Report from the Chief. Commissioner Campion made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stabile, to table the discussion on surplus equipment until more information is received. On roll call vote, all in favor. **Discussion and Action re: FY 2018-19 Budget, Discussion and Action re: Recommendation to Award EMS Staffing RFP and Discussion and Action re: Recommendation to Award PPE bid** were already discussed during the Chief's report.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Action re: Inventory of Equipment Owned by Town: The Risk Manager would like a list of equipment that is owned by the Town. There was a discussion and the general consensus was that the Companies did not have the time to compile this list. There was a list made several years ago and the Chief would like a copy of those lists from each company forwarded to him. **Discussion and Action re: Update for ISO Evaluation:** The Chief noted that ISO may return to reevaluate and he is hopeful that the department's ISO rating could go from a Class 4 to a Class 3. **Discussion and Action re: 2018 PoCo Festival:** Company #3 has self-insured themselves to work at the Festival. The 5k run is scheduled to begin earlier than last year. Company #1 hasn't decided yet whether they will be in charge of parking again this year. **Discussion and Action re: Fire Ops 101 Program:** The Chief requested that this item be tabled as Deputy Chief Colangelo was not available to discuss it.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Captain Torino requested that the BOFC change the name from Foreman to Lieutenant. It was discussed as to whether or not this could be done without the approval of the Board. Commissioner Burich encouraged the Companies to come forward and make the Board aware of things they want. Captain Torino informed the Board that any website changes must be approved by the Chief prior to being added to the website. The Chief replaced the hose bed cover on Engine 1 and suggested that it be done on the other Engines. A printout of the current budget was distributed and discussed. Mayor Doody noted that he and the Town Council appreciate all that the fire department does and they try not to cut any portion of their budget.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner Stabile, seconded by Commissioner Campion, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk