

Board of Fire Commissioners
FIRE DISTRICT # 4
672 EAST MAIN STREET
BRIDGEWATER, NJ 08807
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
February 26, 2025

Commissioner Fell called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM followed by The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Carl Spolarich, Debbie Brightbill, Mijett Long, Sharon Fell, and Allen Kurdyla-absent.
Finderne Fire Department: Chief Christian Fernandez, Deputy Chief Spolarich, Assistant Chief Ruscetta.
President Ranallo and Administrator Jannone.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

Minutes from the prior meeting, January 25, 2025, accepted.

Motion to accept by: D. Brightbill.

Second by: C. Spolarich.

Unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Attached)

Treasurer Spolarich read the Treasurers Report and is attached.

He reported a balance of \$ 1,370,326.59 in all District Accounts.

Motion to accept: M. Long.

Second by: D. Brightbill

Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

Treasurer Spolarich presented the bills which he reviewed with Administrator Jannone.

The total of bills to be paid is \$5,579.85.

Bill list is attached to Treasurer's report.

The motion to pay the bills was made by: D. Brightbill.

Second by: M. Long.

Unanimously approved.

Received \$4,000.00 in fire fines.

CHIEFS REPORT:

28 calls, 507 Man Hours – Report attached.

- Alarm Activations -10
- MV Fire / Accidents – 3
- Cooking Fire - 1
- Open Burn - 1
- Gas Leak – 3
- CO Alarm – 2
- Water Hazard – 3
- Transformer / Wire Fire – 3
- Deck Fire – 1
- Mutual Aid Calls – 1

- 1) Exposure Protection plan – Waiting on Lt. Edwards
- 2) Annual training – Hazmat / Bloodborne & Fit Testing complete. In-house training is every 3rd Monday evening. The 1st live burn has not been scheduled yet.
- 3) Academy class – several members have signed up for spring classes.

- 4) OEM Pre-Plan refreshers – Eastern Star 3/18 and American Cyanamid 3/19
- 5) OEM Billing – LT. Edwards is billing for apparatus and personnel for major gas leak on Betsy Ross Place.
- 6) St. Patrick's Day Parade, Permission to attend with apparatus and family.
 - a. Motion to approve apparatus and family to attend St. Patrick's Day Parade: M. Long
Seconded by: C. Spolarich.
All in favor.
- 7) County CAD System request. District #4 needs an IT person.
- 8) Apparatus Replacement Committee: Chair M. Jannone Sr., D. Bereheiko, S. Spolarich, T. Ruscetta, M. Misciagna, and C. Fernandez.
- 9) Completion of purchasing new portable radios.
- 10) NFIRS is going away by year end. We need a new system. A few options are available, First Due & QED have been explored.

Purchases

- Multi-ladder on Tower 30, costing \$930.00 from First Due.
 - Motion to purchase a multi ladder for Tower 30: M. Long
Seconded by: C. Spolarich.
All in favor.
- New Bullet Chainsaw blade, costing \$390.00.
 - Motion to purchase a new bullet chainsaw blade: M. Long
Seconded by: C. Spolarich.
All in favor.
- Looking to order extra 10 (5 gallon) pails of B-Foam for inventory, costing \$293.00 each.
 - Motion to purchase 10 (5 gallon) pails of B-Foam totaling \$2,930.00: M. Long.
Seconded by: D. Brightbill.
All in favor.

Engineer Report

- Engine 301- 17,490 hours, 1,333 (in-service)
 - 2024 PM repairs scheduled for March 17
 - Would like to install backup camera system this year.
- Engine 302- 38,189 hours, 1,898 (in-service)
 - Waiting for parts to remove the no-smoke system
 - New foam installed.
- Engine 303- 19,406 hours, 1,960 (in-service)
 - Small issues from 2024. PM need to review with Dave Bereheiko.
 - New Foam installed.
- Tower30 – 25,205 hours, 1,791 (in-service)
 - UL testing scheduled for April 28-30, 2025.
- Rescue30 – 1,865 hours, 156 (in-service)
 - Following up with Fire & Safety on warranty issues.
- Utility30 – 3,521 miles / in-service
 - Service is needed
- Car 30 – 34,289 miles / in-service
 - Will need 2 front tires and battery
- Car 30B – 90,040 miles / in-service
 - Wiper pump needs replacement
 - The mechanic commented on concerns with rust on the undercarriage.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

None

FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT REPORT:

- New Member – Mark Kelley – NYC paramedic
- Resigning members – Al Kriney
- Status changes – Alex Misciagna – will help cover night crews when he can.

Started a new program for Monday nights – feeding the members for work details, reported to be successful. Currently the Fire Department is funding it, they will be looking for funding from the commissioners in the future.

Plans for 2025

- Recruitment and retention
- Bringing back the junior Fire Fighter program

Projects

- New roof for the building
- Bunk room for overnight crews, possibly converting the captain's office.
- Building co-ed bathrooms with private rooms

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Election results: incumbent Debbie Brightbill received 40 in person votes, 41 mail in Tally 1, 31 mail in Tally 3 for a total of 92 votes.
- Budget approval – 78 yes & 22 no.
- Proposition #2 – 87 yes & 15 no.
- Budget was approved and submitted into the FAST system.
- Thank you to Jakob Long & Mike Misciagna for working election day voting.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:

Commissioner Fell the meeting to the public at 8:30 PM.

Motion by Commissioner: C. Spolarich.

Second by Commissioner: M. Long

Unanimously Approved.

Hearing none and seeing none.

Motion to close the meeting by: D. Brightbill.

Seconded by: C. Spolarich.

Unanimously approved at 8:31 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Fell asked if anyone had any other business to be heard.

Motion to close by: M. Long.

Second by: C. Spolarich.

All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mijett Long
Secretary