

**BTFD #2 REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
January 3, 2023**

Meeting Called to Order 7:02 pm at the BTFD#2 Fire House.

Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence observed

ROLL CALL By Secretary:

George Chidley, Present, Andrew Law Present, Fred Freda, Present, George Gareis, Absent, Jim Cann, Present.

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:

By Secretary (see Agenda)

REPORT BY CHIEF BTFD#2:

Robert MacFarland, Chief provided all members of the Board of Commissioners and members of the public with a report on a spill at Petro that required evacuation of the Truck Stop.

REPORT BY TREASURER:

Fred Freda provided an Expenses by Vendor Summary of bills paid totaling \$58,663.72 to the BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners. The summary was discussed with the Board Commissioners and public present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief MacFarland and Chair Cann have had discussions with Bordentown Township and Burlington County Officials related to tax revenues. Robert MacFarland, Chief and Jim Cann, Chair reported some progress with Burlington County and the NJ Department of Community affairs resulting in a slight increase in revenue to the Fire District. Apparently an interpretation by the State is part of the problem. Burlington County has gotten involved in the calculations and the Township claim that BTFD#2 was overpaid in 2022. The County supports that the Township's claim that it overpaid is without validity. The Board will receive updates at the next meeting.

MEETING NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Motion made by Commissioner Fred Freda at 7:35 pm to go into closed session to hold a meeting not open to the public to discuss matters related to Contract Negotiations. Minutes to be released after conclusion of negotiations.

Motion Seconded by Andrew Law. All members present affirmed the motion to go into closed session.

At 7:55 pm the BTFD#2 Commissioners reconvene the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING and invite attendees into the meeting room.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-028, 2023 Annual Budget for submission to NJ Department of Community Affairs. Robert MacFarland, Chief BTFD#2 read the proposed 2023 Fire District Budget recommended changes to the Detail Page F-3 increasing the building maintenance to \$90,800, F-8 Fund Balance in 2023 Proposed Budget \$increase to \$225,000, Proposed balance after utilization reduced to \$545,275.

Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. Andrew Law made a Motion to open the meeting for public comment and the motion was Seconded by George Gareis. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to open the meeting for public comment on the proposed budget amendments.

No members of the public stepped forward on the matter. A motion was made by George Chidley and Seconded by George Gareis to close the public comment. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to close the meeting for public comment on the budget amendment.

A Motion was made by Andrew Law to approve the budget with changes contained in Resolution 2022-026. Motion Seconded by George Gareis. All members present balloted to approve Resolution 2022-028.

NEW BUSINESS:

Robert MacFarland, Chief reported that Auditors have not completed the 2021 BTFD#2 Annual Audit and is in the process of pushing them for a firm delivery date. Will follow-up at the next Regular Meeting in February.

Robert MacFarland, Chief reported that the contract to repair the Fire House bathrooms is still under Attorney review. He will follow-up and report back on the matter,

Andrew Law reported receiving reports that the water pressure in the Southern end of the Township was low. He will followup with the Bordentown City Water Department and report back on the matter.

Andrew Law reported that a meeting would be set up with the Fireman's Union to review a proposed new labor contract.

OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to open the meeting to the public. A motion was made by George Chidley and Seconded by Andrew Law to open the meeting to public comment. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to open the meeting for public comment.

No members of the public stepped forward on any matter. A motion was made by George Chidley and Seconded by Andrew Law to close the public comment. A ballot was taken. All members present affirmed the motion to close the meeting for public comment.

Chair Jim Cann requested a motion to adjourn. A Motion to adjourn was made by Andrew Law and Seconded by George Chidley. A ballot was taken and all members affirmed the **motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm.**

MINUTES APPROVED ON February 7, 2023

George Chidley____

Fred Freda ____

George Gareis Abstain

Andrew Law ____

Jim Cann _____

CERTIFIED BY:

George Chidley, Secretary
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners

Jim Cann, Chair
BTFD#2 Board of Fire Commissioners