

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"



December 21, 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:30 on December 21, 2022, at the Farmington Volunteer Fire Company, by President Charles J. Mackintosh. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Deacon Rich Maxwell. Chaplain Maxwell asked everyone to remember, and keep in prayers, those that have recently passed, and their families, including Chief Ed Vincent, Firefighter Eric Peace, and Chief Chuck Mackintosh. President Mackintosh then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Introduction of Host Chief

President Mackintosh introduced Assistant Chief Dennis Sharpe of the Farmington Volunteer Fire Company. Assistant Chief Sharpe welcomed all to Farmington and introduced Egg Harbor Township Chief Rob Winkler. Chief Winkler welcomed all to Egg Harbor Township on behalf of all the fire companies and auxiliaries and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In Attendance

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 42 of 172 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 21 of 43

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for January 6, 2023 in Pomona at 19:30 and will be the reorganizational meeting for 2023.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for January 9, 2023 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center. Howard reported that Atlantic County had the job posting for the Director of the Fire Academy open for four weeks. Howard reported that representatives from the Board will work with the County to conduct interviews in early January.

Atlantic County Radio Communications – Howard Berchtold reported that there has been a good working conversation with Atlantic County. The County will be seeking a grant to conduct an updated feasibility study. Howard reported that an email went out to the chiefs requesting comments and input. A Fire, EMS, Police study will be done along with the Fire, EMS only study to look at the financial impact of the Next Generation 911 updates required for all PSAP/Dispatch centers. The Committee will meet again on January 10, 2023 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that he will send out all the fall 2022 invoices by the end of December. Mike reported that he is looking to get the Spring 2023 Course Book posted and sent out in January. Mike reported on attending the NJ Training and Education meeting. They are working on updating the 2015 code to the 2018 code and there will be an online class for Fire Inspectors and Officials. They voted to again offer a Firefighter II challenge test. The challenge test will still follow the original guidelines. The test is only open to those that have five years in the fire service prior to 2008. One challenge test will be hosted in Atlantic County. The test will consist of one hundred questions from the current James & Bartlett textbook. Only one attempt will be allowed for the challenge test. Mike reported that the fall Firefighter I class had just finished and that he will schedule a graduation ceremony in January. Mike wished all Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Dave Buzby reminded everyone to notify him, or Secretary Mellon, of any firefighter deaths in 2022, no later than January 11th, for inclusion in the annual memorial service program on January 18, 2023. Dave wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported that an email was sent out about the SARS training scheduled for January 28 and 29 in Weymouth. There are ten openings for the class and additional classes may be scheduled if there is enough interest. Chip reported that Atlantic County is seeking to implement a SARS trained team at the county level. Chip reported that there are three new Fire Chiefs in the county. Chief Joe Kaspar, Minotola Vol. Fire Company. Chief Chris Tilley, Laureldale Vol. Fire Company. Chief Mike Sweeney, Somers Point Vol. Fire Department. Chip reported on a pending foam delivery and noted that there is no update on how or where to dispose of old foam. Chip wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association – Butch Kienzle summarized the minutes of the meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association held on December 14, 2022 at the Sweetwater Volunteer Fire Company. Nominations and election of officers for 2023 was conducted. All current officers will continue in 2023. Butch reported on discussion about Salem County creating and training people for a fire support position that would include almost all aspects of the fire service, except for interior firefighting, after one hundred and twenty hours of training. Mike Corbo reported that the NJ DFS has not sanctioned the job title. Butch reported that some of the equipment has started arriving through the Egg Harbor City sponsored regional grant. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association will be 8:00 PM on January 24, 2023 at the Absecon Volunteer Fire Department and there will be no meeting in February. Butch wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition – Billy Merola reported that one nomination has been received and that a meeting to review will be scheduled in January.

100th Anniversary – President Chuck Mackintosh reported that the 100th Anniversary Committee will be meeting after the meeting. Anyone wishing to join the committee should see him after the meeting.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2023/2024 meeting schedule as submitted by Secretary Mellon.

2023/2024 Meeting schedule for the Executive Committee (meetings at 19:30):

March 3 – Cardiff	May 5 – Longport
July 7 – Somers Point #1	September 1 – Absecon
November 3 – South Egg Harbor	January 5, 2024 – Pomona

2023/2024 Meeting schedule for the Regular Meetings (third Wednesday of month at 19:30):

March 15 – Weekstown	April 19 - Fire Training Center (Host Margate)	May 17 – Oceanville
June 21 – Milmay	July 19 – Linwood	August 16 – Mays Landing
September 20 – Hammonton #1	October 18 – Dorothy	November 15 – Somers Point #2
December 20 – West Atlantic City	January 17, 2024 – Egg Harbor City	February 21, 2024 – Longport

Bills

The bills were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Election of Officers

The election of officers was held. Martin Walley withdrew from nomination to the Executive Committee, so all positions were unopposed. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Secretary cast the ballot for all unopposed positions. Those elected to office for the year 2023 are as follows:

President (1)	Charles J. Mackintosh
1 st Vice President (1)	Dennis C. Sharpe
2 nd Vice President (1)	William L. Merola Jr.
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Sandra L. Walczak
Chaplain (1)	Dcn. Rich Maxwell
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Wayne Dilks, William Donath, Charles Harlan
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr., Levon S. “Lefty” Clayton, Marc J. Corsiglia, Kim Feinstein, Joe Hartman, Walter R. “Butch” Kienzle III, Christopher Kislow, Eugene M. Sharpe, C. Robert Winkler III

Good of the Order

Lefty Clayton shared an article from FDNY about PVstop extinguishers for use on solar panels.

Butch Kienzle shared his opinion on recent funeral attendance from the county fire service, notably some having a poor turnout while one had a good turnout.

Howard Berchtold gave kudos to Bayview Volunteer Fire Company for their handling of the funeral for Chief Chuck Mackintosh and noted that there was good attendance.

Howard Berchtold reported that it was good to see Fire Marshal Buzby back at the meetings after recovery from surgery.

Howard Berchtold wished everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

President Chuck Mackintosh thanked everyone for the condolences and participation at his father's funeral. Chuck noted that the Bayview Volunteer Fire Company did an excellent job and that everyone helped make one of the worst days much better.

Thank you to the Farmington Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Rich Maxwell. Dcn. Maxwell wished all a Blessed Christmas and New Year. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:05. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on January 18, 2023 in Egg Harbor City. This meeting includes the annual memorial service of the association. Please submit the names of those that have passed during 2022, no later than January 11th, so that they may be included in the memorial service program and plan on attending the meeting and service in full class A dress uniform.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Tues. Aug. 8, 2023	19:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	New Jersey Firemen's Association Atlantic County Caucus
Fri. Sep. 15, 2023		Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 16, 2023		Wildwood Convention Center	New Jersey Firemen's Association Annual Convention
Sat. Sep. 30, 2023		Egg Harbor City	Atlantic County Firefighters' Assoc. 100th Anniversary Celebration

ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Jan. 18, 2023	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 15, 2023	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Mar. 15, 2023	19:30	Weekstown VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Apr. 19, 2023	19:30	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center (Host -Margate FD)	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting and Annual Valor Awards Presentation
Wed. May 17, 2023	19:30	Oceanville VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jun. 21, 2023	19:30	Milmay VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jul. 16, 2023	19:30	Linwood FD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Aug. 16, 2023	19:30	Mays Landing VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Sep. 20, 2023	19:30	Hammonton VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Oct. 18, 2023	19:30	Dorothy VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Nov. 15, 2023	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 20, 2023	19:30	West Atlantic City VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 17, 2024	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 21, 2024	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jan. 6, 2023	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)
Fri. Mar. 4, 2023	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. May 6, 2023	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jul. 1, 2023	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Sep. 2, 2023	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Nov. 4, 2023	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jan. 6, 2024	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jan. 9, 2023	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Tues. Jan. 24, 2023	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association
February 2023			NO MEETING

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jan. 26, 2023	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2023	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association