

# Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

*"In Union For The Safety Of All"*



October 16, 2024

## **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 19:30 on October 16, 2024, at the Port Republic 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. 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 John Yochim, Sr. of the Port Republic Volunteer Fire Company. Assistant Chief Yochim welcomed all to Port Republic.

## **In Attendance**

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 38 of 172      Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 19 of 43

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2024 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.

## **Special Presentation**

President Mackintosh introduced Ryan Bobb, Manager Fire Programs, Flex CPR. Ryan provided background information about Flex CPR, a company started by Barbara Iavicola to provide CPR training and other classes. Ryan reviewed the upcoming scheduled classes and noted that training can be tailored to fire department needs. A flyer was shared, and additional information can be found at [www.FlexCPR.com](http://www.FlexCPR.com).

## **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee** – Vice-Chairman Levon S. "Lefty" Clayton reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 1, 2024 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. The committee will meet at the South Egg Harbor firehouse at 17:15 or the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, at 17:30 for the spaghetti and crab sauce dinner at the gun club. All are welcome to join the committee for dinner.

**Training** – Director Brian Middleton reported that the Haz-Mat Incident Commander class has been rescheduled for November and dates will be posted when finalized. Brian also reported that the refurbishment of the confined space simulator is almost complete, and it will be ready for the spring classes.

**Fire Coordinator** – Fire Coordinator Clyde W. “Chip” Stockton Jr. reported that he spoke with New Jersey Forest Fire Service leadership concerning the Wildland Urban Interface drill scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>. It was determined that it would be best to reschedule the drill in the spring due to the current extremely dry conditions. Chip noted that the entire state is currently under Stage 2 Fire Restrictions. Chip reported that John Yochim is working on the TTF-A trailer. Chip reported that the state is currently seeking a vendor that can accept the old foam from throughout the state.

**NJ State Firemen’s Assn.** – Executive Committeewoman Cindy Badger provided an update on the upcoming due dates for many association forms and applications and noted that she had emailed the information to the local association officers. Cindy provided an update on the totals of new applications and the statewide financial numbers. Cindy reported that she had also forwarded the email from President Robert Ordway that provided those numbers along with information about the New Jersey Firemen’s Home expansion plans and potential financial impact of those plans.

**NJ Firemen’s Home** – Oscar Dutch, Atlantic County Board Manager, reported that he has been appointed to the expansion committee and noted that the committee has not yet met to begin the process of laying out a plan or financial impact. Oscar noted that there is a study that recommends adding twenty-three rooms, or twenty-nine in a new wing, to accommodate the state recommendation of only having one guest per room for better prevention of the spreading of any future illnesses. Oscar reported that The Antique Fire Association of New Jersey has scheduled an Antique Fire Muster at the home on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am until 2pm. Oscar reported that a new water chlorination system is being installed, they are going to rebuild a 1920s era elevator, and looking into additional handicap parking. Oscar reported that there are currently seventy-five guests in long-term care, seven in memory care, and seven in residential with the current wait list at seven and thirty applications pending. Oscar reported that they are looking into increasing the admission requirement from one-year active fire service to eighty-four-month active fire service. There was some discussion about whether the state is requiring one guest per room or is it only a recommendation. Oscar noted that the state is currently seeking to require one per room in new construction.

**Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association** – Chuck Mackintosh reported that the next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 in Bayview, Galloway Township.

**Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition** – Billy Merola reported that no nominations have been received and noted that a brief meeting of the committee will be held immediately following this meeting to discuss revisions and updates. The one update now in place is that January 31<sup>st</sup> will be the cutoff date for receiving the nominations for the Harold J. “Whitey” Swartz Valor Awards and Service Recognition to be held the following April.

**Atlantic County Radio Communications** – Chuck Macintosh reported that the draft report is being compiled and that ADCOMM Engineering LLC has until the end of October to complete it.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Kim Feinstein reported that the committee did well at the Smithville Oktoberfest on October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> and that they are seeking additional volunteers to attend the EHT Tractor Supply Hometown Heros Day on October 26<sup>th</sup> to sell ACFFA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary merchandise and to represent the association to the public. Kim requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Smithville thanking them for the donation of the spot.

### **Communications**

There were no communications to report.

### **Deferred Business**

There was no deferred business to act upon.

### **New Business**

Ken Badger reported that the original cardboard boxes for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary merchandise are not sturdy enough to keep using and recommended purchasing nine totes at approximately \$9 each.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association purchase the nine totes at approximately \$9 each.

**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.

**Nomination of Officers**

The first of two rounds of nominations were held. Those nominated are as follows:

President (1) Charles J. Mackintosh

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (1) Dennis C. Sharpe

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (1) William L. Merola Jr.

Secretary (1) Robert A. Mellon

Treasurer (1) Jaime C. Mellon

Asst. Sec./Trea. (1) *no nomination received*

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\*

**\*have not yet formally accepted nomination and must do so before elections.**

**Good of the Order**

John Yochim reported that Port Republic VFC has their take-out Roast Beef Dinner scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Kim Feinstein reported that Somers Point VFC Sta. 2 Auxiliary has a Sub Sale scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>.

John Mooney reported that Oceanville VFC has their Ham & Oyster Dinner scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Shockey reported that Buena Boro FF Support Assoc. has a Roast Beef Sale scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Adjournment**

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Dcn. Rich Maxwell. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 20:15. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 19:30 on November 20, 2024 at the Somers Point Volunteer Fire Company Sta. 1.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

**Fire Department/Company/Association Events**

Sat. Oct. 19, 2024	09:00	New Jersey Firemen's Home	Antique Fire Muster (09:00 - 14:00)
Sat. Oct. 19, 2024	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner (15:30 - 19:30) *DRIVE THROUGH ONLY
Sun. Oct. 20, 2024	10:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2 Ladies Auxiliary	Football Hoagie & Meatball Sale (10:00 - 13:00)
Sat. Oct. 26, 2024	08:15	Newtonville & Weymouth	Wildland Urban Interface Drill (CANCELED)
Sat. Oct. 26, 2024	11:00	Buena Boro VFC	Roast Beef Sale (11:00 - 14:00)
Sat. Nov. 9, 2024	15:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham or Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Dec. 8, 2024	08:00	Somers Point VFD Sta. 2 Ladies Auxiliary	Breakfast with Santa (08:00 - 12:00)
Sat. Dec. 14, 2024	19:00	Hammonton VFD	Hammonton VFD Christmas Parade (lineup 18:00 & parade 19:00)

**ACFFA Meetings**

**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association**

Wed. Nov. 20, 2024	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18, 2024	19:30	Cardiff VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Wed. Jan. 15, 2025	19:30	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 19, 2025	19:30	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

**Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee**

Fri. Nov. 1, 2024	19:30	South Egg Harbor VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting
Fri. Jan. 3, 2025	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)

**Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings**

**Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board**

Mon. Oct. 21, 2024	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
Mon. Jan. 13, 2025	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

**Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association**

Wed. Nov. 13, 2024	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Dec. 11, 2024	20:00	Sweetwater VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Tues. Jan. 28, 2025	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
February 2025			NO MEETING

**Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.**

Thurs. Jan. 23, 2025	19:30	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 24, 2025	19:30	Somers Point VFD Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association