

TOWN OF HARRISBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 18, 2019
6:00 P.M. at Harrisburg Fire Administration Building

Meeting called to order by Chairman Robin Torrence

Present: Robin Torrence, Bill Kennedy, Barry Lefler, Matt Stiene, Battalion Chief Tim Wooten

Absent: Chief Bryan Dunn, Deputy Chief Ken Bradey, Graydon Choinski

Public attendance: One resident (name not recorded)

Town Official(s): None

1.0 Invocation:

Barry Lefler conducted the Invocation

2.0 Public comment:

Harrisburg resident spoke about the attending a recent Town Budget meeting and was interested in learning more about the proposed HFD Budget. He also spoke about ongoing issue with Fire Lane violations at Harrisburg Shopping centers, including Harris Teeter and Food Lion on Hwy 49. Specifically commented one person who ignored a FF from Ladder 1 reminding them of the rules regarding the Fire Lane. Battalion Chief Wooten discussed the issues surrounding enforcement and would notify the Fire Marshall.

3.0 Agenda changes and approval:

Matt Stiene made a motion to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded by Bill Kennedy and passed.

4.0 Review of the consent agenda:

Barry Lefler made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Matt Stiene and passed.

5.0 Old Business:

- A. Personnel update:** The department currently has two Fire Fighter vacancies, however there are two more anticipated vacancies. One HFD firefighter has announced he intends to resign to relocate to Atlanta with his family and a second FF is in the application and hiring process to go to Concord Fire Department. The applicant testing process is ongoing, with the written and CPAT assessments completed and there are currently 19 applicants scheduled for interviews. The next scheduled Recruit School in Concord is scheduled to start around the end of July.
- B. Station 2 update:** Construction of the new Fire Station 2 is continuing, however several small issues have moved the estimated completion date back. Inspections by department officials revealed issues with flooring and wall finishes, some of sections of ceilings. The builder is working on rectifying the problems, however the estimated turn over to the Town is now in May, and it is anticipated the station will be operational around June 1st.

C. Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget: Department administrators have been through the initial budget review and approval process with Town officials. At this time, the proposed FY2020 HFD budget has been reviewed and it is anticipated that the budget will be approved by the Town Manager with few, if any, changes. The Board reviewed some of the highlights of the proposed budget, including the proposal to switch from County dispatching to Concord Fire dispatching. Moving to Concord Fire Dispatch would improve data collection, efficiency, enhance borderless dispatching, improve the accuracy of department goal and benchmark measurements and be better suited to handle future HFD growth.

6.0 New Business:

- A. County Board Appointments:** Two of the five Fire Department Advisory Board positions are filled by persons from the un-incorporated area of the fire district, after approval by the Town Council and the County Commission. Those positions serve for two year terms and are currently filled by Graydon Choinski and Matthew Stiene. Both terms will expire July 1, 2019. Matthew Stiene stated he is interested in continuing to serve on the board. Robin Torrence reported that has spoken to Graydon Choinski and due to some personal/family commitments, Graydon Choinski does not intended to reapply to Board.
- B. Town Board Appointments:** Three of the five Fire Department Advisory Board positions are filled by persons from the incorporated area of the Town, who serve two year terms after approval by the Town Council. Only the position held by William Kennedy is expiring in July of 2019 (the remaining two will expire in 2020). William Kennedy is also interested in continuing to serve on the Board.

7.0 Setting of next meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the HFD Administration Building.

8.0 Adjournment:

Matt Stiene made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill Kennedy and passed.

Members:

Inside corporate limits:

Robin Torrence - Chairman
Bill Kennedy - Secretary
Barry Lefler – Vice Chairman

Outside corporate limits:

Graydon Choinski
Matthew Stiene
Ex-Officio member: Tim Wooten