

TOWN OF HARRISBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 21, 2022
6:00 P.M. at Harrisburg Fire Administration Building

Present: Robin Torrence, Barry Lefler, Bill Kennedy, Ken Long

Absent: Matt Stiene, Chief Bryan Dunn, Deputy Chief Ken Bradey, Division Chief Tim Wooten

1.0 Call to Order

A. Agenda Adoption:

There was no formal agenda prepared for the meeting. Bill Kennedy made a motion to proceed with an agenda as presented, updating department information. The motion was seconded by Barry Lefler and passed unanimously.

B. Invocation:

Barry Lefler conducted the Invocation

C. Special Presentations:

None

D. Public Comment:

None.

2.0 Consent Agenda

A. Monthly Reports:

There were no reports presented for this meeting

B. Minutes:

The Board had previously received and reviewed the minutes from the October 2021 and the February 2022 meetings. Ken Long made a motion to accept the two Monthly Minutes from those two meetings. The motion was seconded by Barry Lefler and passed unanimously.

3.0 Old Business

A. Promotional Ceremony:

On April 5th, the department held a pinning ceremony to celebrate the recent promotions of department personnel. The Advisory Board extends our congratulations to those promoted, including:

1. Assistant Chief John Renner
2. Division Chief Tim Wooten
3. Battalion Chief Jason Walker
4. Captain Josh Fox
5. Captain Sandy Torrence
6. Captain Matt Vaughn
7. Engineer Anthony Evans
8. Engineer Brian Ordasz
9. Engineer Nick Martin

B. ISO Rating Review:

The department is still awaiting the results of the ISO Inspection/review that occurred in December 2021. At the time, the Office of the State Fire Marshall stated the results could take between 90 to 120 days, so the results and new rating are expected any day.

C. Personnel Updates:

1. The department has had two firefighters leave to take positions with other fire departments (Charlotte and Kannapolis) bringing the total number of vacancies to six.
2. From the most recent applicant process, the department has identified 3 candidates and they are expected to start when Concord Fire begins their next academy in June.
3. The department has also posted the position seeking lateral transfer candidates for firefighters. If those candidates hold current certifications and have completed a recognized municipal fire training academy, they do not need to attend the academy and can quickly be added to operations.
4. Effective April 24th, Tim Wooten will begin in his new assignment as Division Chief for Planning and Data. Chief Wooten had remained as a Battalion Chief after the resignation of Battalion Chief Steve Southworth at the beginning of the year. With Wooten assuming his new position, Deputy Chief Bradey will become the Interim Battalion Chief, A-Shift, in addition to his responsibilities as Deputy Chief of Operations until a new Battalion Chief can assume command of A-shift.

D. Station 1 Warning Light:

The process for adding a station warning light for traffic on Morehead Road is continuing we are getting updated prices (since this was initially proposed two years ago). The proposal to add a pre-emption device for the traffic light at Morehead and Hwy 49 has been dropped by the town.

E. Town Pay Study:

At the beginning of the year, the Town hired a consultant to perform a comprehensive salary study which would take an in depth look at the Town's overall compensation program. That report should be completed by next month and the Town appears to be ready to deal with any compensation inequities.

F. Sheriff Office Move:

The deputies assigned to the Harrisburg division from the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office have moved from the Administration building into a new modular facility, located behind Station 1.

G. 2022-23 Budget Update:

The process for setting the FY 2022-23 department budget continues and is currently in the hands of the Town Manager and Town Council. While nothing significant has been cut from the requested budget so far, it does seem likely that some cuts are inevitable. The Town Manager is schedule to present his final budget proposal to the Council next month.

4.0 New Business:

A. New Ladder Truck:

Construction of the department's new ladder truck is progressing, and the board

reviewed some constructions photos. Currently, the manufacturer anticipates delivery in September or October of this year.

B. Advisory Board Vacancies:

Two of the Advisory Board positions expire this July. The Town has begun the process of refilling those seats.

C. County Realignment of Fire Districts:

1. At a recent County Commissioners Meeting, County Fire Marshall Jacob Thompson presented the results of a recent resources study and proposed changes that would realign Fire Districts in the rural areas of the county to improve coverage and response times. Although primarily impacting the Flowes Store Fire District, those changes would impact both the Harrisburg and Midland Fire District. Harrisburg's Rural District would see the addition of property along Lower Rocky River Road to the Harrisburg Rural Fire District.
2. Cabarrus County Emergency Management and Fire Services Director Steve Langer has provided updated maps to the State Fire Marshal and the County Commissioners were expected to approve the changes at their April meeting. Once approved, the change will take effect on July 1st.

5.0 Next Meeting:

The board scheduled the next meeting for Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. at the HFD Administration Building.

6.0 Adjournment:

Bill Kennedy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barry Lefler and passed.

Members:

Inside corporate limits:

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

Outside corporate limits:

Matthew Stiene
Ken Long
Ex-Officio member: Tim Wooten