



ATLANTIC COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

Egg Harbor City

January 21, 2004

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 8:00 PM on Wednesday, January 21, 2004 with President R. Thomas Hunter Jr. presiding. The meeting was opened with the Flag Salute, followed by Invocation by Reverend Thomas Sweeny, Chaplain of the Association. President Hunter then pointed out the exits. The Secretary read the rolls to record attendance as well as to ensure a quorum being present. Chief Russell Fenton of the Egg Harbor City Fire Department welcomed the membership and guests to Egg Harbor City. Chief Fenton then introduced the Line Officers of the Fire Department as well as introducing Egg Harbor City Mayor James McGeary who extended a warm welcome to all.

President Hunter welcomed and introduced guests Congressman Frank LoBiondo, Assemblyman Kurt Conover, Atlantic County Freeholders James A. Carney, James Curcio, Frank Finnerty, Steven Johnson, John Risley, Joseph Silipena, Chairman of the Board and Department Head of Public Safety Richard Mulvihill, Director of Emergency Preparedness Vincent Jones, Deputy Director of Emergency Preparedness Edward Conover, Fire Marshall Harold "Whitey" Swartz, Director of Atlantic County Fire Academy Training Michael Corbo and Egg Harbor City Mayor James McGeary. All of the Invited Guests addressed the membership and expressed their appreciation for all that the Firefighters do for their local communities and for Atlantic County.

The Annual Memorial Services were conducted by the Memorial Committee with Chaplain Reverend Thomas Sweeny giving the Homily, with the Memorial Candles being lit by Vice Presidents Dennis Sharpe and Kathleen Dierwechter, and the bell being tolled by Charles J. Guenther as the Secretary Howard R. Guenther read the roll of the Firefighters of Atlantic County who answered their last alarm during the past year.

Members of the Final Roll were

Charles S. Auge	Absecon	Rudolph Foell	Cologne
John J. Duffy Jr.	Atlantic City	Steven Maclean	Cologne
James Hicks Jr.	Atlantic City	Barton Breder	Egg Harbor City
Warren W. Howell	Atlantic City	William Lehneis	Egg Harbor City
John P. McCabe	Atlantic City	Charles Cirillo	Elwood
Michael J. Previti	Atlantic City	John Staub	Estell Manor
John Smith Jr.	Atlantic City	Edward J. Habermehl Sr.	Farmington
John Walsh	Atlantic City	Eugene Perrone	Hammonton
John A. Wilson Jr.	Atlantic City	James Vassallo	Minotola
John E. Wilson	Atlantic City	George S. Battles Jr.	Oceanville
Lewis Esposito	Bargaintown	James Bishop	Pleasantville
Joseph R. Bustard Jr.	Bayview	Edward Salmon	Pleasantville
Charles A. Gallagher	Bayview	Earle Ashworth	Pomona
George M. Nast	Bayview	Gildas R. Jones Sr.	Pomona
Donald S. Stewart	Bayview	Donald H. Ricci	Pomona

The "Lord's Prayer" was sung by Howard H. Berchtold Jr.

"Taps" was played by Bugler Joseph Ward, followed by the playing of "Amazing Grace" by the Bagpipers.

DATE CLEARING

Sunday	Feb. 3-March 14-April 11	Somers Point #2	Breakfast (AYCE)	8 AM to 12 noon
Wednesday	Feb. 18	Longport	Firefighters' Association Meeting	8 PM
Thursday	Feb. 26	South Egg Harbor	Fire Chiefs' Association Meeting	8 PM
Sunday	March 7	Cape/Atlantic	200 Club Memorial Service and Breakfast	
Wednesday	March 17	Folsom	Firefighters' Association Meeting	8 PM
Friday	March 26	Crab Trap Restaurant	in Somers Point	Firefighters' Association Dinner

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

DATE CLEARING (continued)

Saturday	May	1	Germania	Turkey or Pork Dinner	4 to 7:30 PM
Saturday	May	15	Port Republic	Roast Beef Dinner	3:30 to 7:30 PM
Saturday	June	5	Cologne	Chicken Bar-Be-Cue, etc.	1 to 7 PM
Sunday	June	6	Dorothy	Chicken Bar-Be-Cue, etc.	12 noon to 6 PM
Tuesday	Aug.	17	Egg Harbor City	Atlantic Co. Caucus for 2004 Firemen's Convention	8 PM
Fri & Sat	Sept	17 & 18	Wildwood	2004 New Jersey State Firemen's Convention	
Saturday	Oct.	2	Germania	Turkey or Pork Dinner	4 to 7:30 PM
Saturday	Oct.	16	Port Republic	Roast Beef Dinner	3:30 to 7:30 PM

Joseph Silipena, Chairman of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders installed the following into office for the year of 2004

President	R. Thomas Hunter Jr.	Executive Committee (9)
1st Vice President	Dennis Sharpe	Howard H. Berchtold Jr.
2nd Vice President	Kathleen Dierwechter	Ronald Bird Jr.
Secretary	Howard R. Guenther	Rick Coraluzzo Sr.
Treasurer	Lou Raciti	Oscar Dutch Jr.
Chaplain	Reverend Thomas Sweeny	James Garth Sr.
Sergeants-at-Arms (3)	Chester P. Crowell	Charles J. Guenther
	Clarence P. Guenther	Amor "Skip" Portale
	Charles Sander	Ted Reinhard
		John V. Wagner

Motion seconded and carried to accept and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of December 17, 2003 as forwarded to the Chiefs and Secretaries.

Howard Berchtold Jr. gave a short report on the Executive Committee meeting of January 9th and the Committee and Association is looking forward to a very busy year in 2004. Howard also remarked on the Fire Training Academy Board of Directors' meeting of January 12th and the proposed preliminary plans for the Training Center expansion.

Director of Training Michael Corbo reported on proposed training courses to be given during the 2004 Spring Semester and that the training booklets have been printed and available. Firefighter 1 is to start on Tuesday February 24th and Firefighter 2 is to start on Monday March 15th.

Vincent Jones, Director of Emergency Preparedness, reported that grants have been applied for and received and that equipment is to be received shortly for the fire companies of Atlantic County.

Howard Guenther reported that the annual Firefighters' dinner is to be held on Friday, March 26th at the Crab Trap in Somers Point and a flyer is enclosed. Please post.

The 200 Club Committee reported that the annual Cape/Atlantic Memorial Services and Breakfast in honor of Police-Fire-Ems personnel killed in the Line of Duty is to be held on Sunday, March 7th. Flyer is enclosed, Please Post. Flyer is self-explanatory. Cut off bottom and send with money to designated address. There are a limited number of tickets available, with tables of ten (10) available. It is suggested that if you desire to sit together, that slips and money be forwarded together with a short note to that effect to address as indicated. Officers and Members of the Executive Committee of the Firefighters Association to be seated together as a group should coordinate their purchase of tickets, etc. thru Whitey Swartz.

The Trustees to the Atlantic County Firemen's Death Benefit Fund reported that they made 2 important changes to the By-Laws of the fund which are effective immediately as of their meeting of January 15th.

"Members are only allowed 1 (one) membership to the Death Benefit Fund, regardless of how many fire companies or departments they belong to."

"Members in good standing is defined as having paid all assessments in full within 12 (twelve) months after notice of assessments are sent out."

Bills as presented were approved for payment out of their respective budgeted accounts.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned with the next scheduled meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 18th at 8 PM in Longport.

Attested Howard R. Guenther, Secretary