

The Board of Fire Commissioner, Gloucester Township Fire District # 4 held a Workshop Meeting on January 3, 2024. The meeting was held at Blackwood Fire Company, 14. W Central Avenue, Blackwood NJ 08012. This meeting has been properly advertised according to the State of New Jersey Sunshine Laws.

COMMISSIONERS: M. Cristella, J. Vannoni. M. Jones

ATTENDEES: FF Klingberg, FF Sambucco, Captain Reiss, IAFF Local President Kemery

1. The Board discussed the use of the engine bays for member's personal use. The subject came up after a member was repairing his car in the engine bay. He had previously gotten permission from the Chief. Commissioner Vannoni suggested the Board and Blackwood Fire Company get together, to discuss the subject since it affects both. He also brought up the subject of the on-campus smoking ban. He stated he also recalls a policy on the use of the Fire Commissioners office.

The policy on smoking was changed in July of 2023, and states smoking would be permitted in the rear of Central Avenue Station.

Vice President Sambucco stated the BOFC does not lease the property surrounding the building or the parking lot, it is not included in the lease, so he does not know how Chairman Vannoni issued a policy for property the BOFC does not lease. He suggested the BOFC confers with their Solicitor on the subject.

On the topic of personal vehicles in the stations, it seems everyone was in agreement to keep the current policy in place, which states no personal vehicles in the buildings.

Captain Reiss was asked his opinion on the topic, and he said if a career firefighter needs to do an oil change, since they work the 24-hour shift, they should be able to do it. He added, that personal vehicles cannot be in the building if there is a fire call, which becomes a problem if someone is in the middle of an oil change, when the fire call happens. He said that would limit what firefighters would do.

Commissioner Vannoni stated the insurance guy told him not to allow vehicle maintenance, as the BOFC would be held responsible. he said if you want to let them wash their cars, you would still be held responsible if something happens.

IAFF Local 3249 President Kemery brought up the fact that if career staff or volunteer members are permitted to detail their cars in the building, it brings more members out and since they would be at the Station, available to answer a call if needed.

Commissioner Cristella doesn't want it to come back, and bite the district, and give someone the chance to sue the fire district.

IAFF Local President Kemery also stated if someone is up here detailing their car, and something happens to them, they would not be eligible for workmen's comp, because they are not actively working on a call.

Commissioner Vannoni stated if we want them to be able to detail their cars, there will be guidelines and restrictions on doing so.

Commissioner Vannoni stated he and Vice President Sambucco should get together, and put together some guidelines and restrictions, and President Dunlap, Sr. should be in on those conversations.

At this time, the current policy will remain in place.

Commissioner J. Vannoni said there was an application to review, and it will be officially presented at the regular meeting.

Commissioner J. Vannoni stated Inspira has stopped doing all occupational medicine, and so he spoke to Betsy at Interstate Mobile today, and the Board will need to pass a resolution at the regular meeting making the change. He said he spoke to Bil Robb at District # 2, and they will work together to see if it may be possible between both districts to get the minimum Interstate requires to have the mobile unit visit.

Commissioner Jones asked if the mobile unit would come here?

Commissioner J. Vannoni said yes, that is possible. He added that Interstate Mobile is much more expensive. He said he will send an email out, concerning this.

Trustee Klingberg stated the boiler is being replaced on January 18th. The contractor will supply space heaters if necessary.

With no further business to discuss.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner J> Vannoni to adjourn.

Dated: January 3, 2024

BY: _____
Michael Jones, Secretary