

TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 "FIRE DEPARTMENT " OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON

Ordinance #28 -2023

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following amendments shall be made to Chapter 21 Fire Department" of the Township of Readington as follows (changes marked *thus* signify new language; changes marked ~~thus~~ signify deletions):

SECTION 1. Sec. 65-1 Purpose

Fire Department

§ 21-1 Establishment.

A Fire Department of the Township of Readington in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, is hereby established.

§ 21-2 Title.

Said Fire Department shall be known as the "Readington Township Fire Department."

§ 21-3 Composition of Department.

The ~~East Whitehouse Fire Company, Inc.~~; Readington Fire Company, Inc.; Three Bridges Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.; and Whitehouse Fire Company No. 1, Inc., are hereby made and established as said Fire Department.

~~§ 21-4 Rules and regulations; selection of Chief.~~

~~The Township Committee may adopt rules and regulations for the conduct, control and duties of the Chief of said Fire Department. The Chief of each fire company which shall constitute the Fire Department shall meet within 30 days of the effective date of this article and elect from among themselves an Acting Chief of the Readington Township Fire Department, and thereafter in the month of January 1969 they shall meet again and elect annually in January and name the new Acting Chief, who shall be from one of the companies not previously having the Acting Chief. After the first four Acting Chiefs, the appointment shall be on a rotating annual term, with the Acting Chief being elected in the same order as were the first four.~~

§ 21-5 Adoption of rules, regulations and amendments.

When rules and regulations affecting this article are passed, they shall be passed only upon written notice to all fire companies, and any amendments thereafter made to these rules and regulations may only be made upon 30 days' prior written notice to all fire companies.

§ 21-6 Township Chief.

A. Effective January 1, 2024, or as soon thereafter as practical, shall be a Township Fire Chief who shall report to the Township Administrator and shall be responsible for all Fire Companies now in existence or to be created to the following extent.

B. The Township Chief, by education and experience shall be qualified to manage the Readington Township Fire Department as follows:

1. coordinate and develop unified budgets and company budgets in conjunction with the various Company Chiefs and the Township Chief Financial Officer;
2. standardize and maintain Standard Operating Guidelines ("SOG's)/Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)
3. liaison with Whitehouse Rescue Squad and the Readington Township Police Department;
4. standardize equipment and apparatus maintenance and maintain all pertinent records of same;
5. standardize and schedule quarterly training evolutions and maintain records of same and annual recertifications;
6. schedule annual testing for pumps, hose and ladder and maintain records of same;
7. coordinate all LOSAP applications for the fire service;
8. may assume command at an incident;
9. address and resolve issues of a personnel nature at the various fire companies;
10. any other duties so assigned by the Township Administrator.

11. Shall be required to have and maintain the following certifications and any other certifications so required by the Division of Fire Safety:

- i. Fire Fighter 1
- ii. Hazardous Materials Awareness
- iii. Hazardous Materials Operations
- iv. I-100 National Incident Management System Introduction
- v. I-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- vi. I-700 National Incident Management Systems - Introduction
- vii. I-800 National Response Framework
- viii. IMS Level 1
- ix. IMS Level 2

----- Preferred Qualifications -----

- x. Hazardous Materials On Scene Incident Commander
- xi. IMS Level 3
- xii. Firefighter 2
- xiii. Fire Officer 1 or 2
- xiv. Fire Instructor 1 or 2
- xv. Any other qualifications so determined by the New Jersey Division of Fire

Service, Department of Community Affairs.

§ 21-7 Company Chief.

There shall be a continuation of each Fire Company, which shall now be known as a Company. Each Company shall continue having a Chief, which shall now be known as Company Chief and shall report to the Township Chief as outlined in § 21-6. Each said Fire Company shall have its own chain of command officers.

SECTION 2. All other language not specifically changed by this ordinance amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. The sections, subsections and provisions of this Ordinance may be renumbered as necessary or practical for codification purposes.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. If the provision of any article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any such article, section, subsection, paragraph, subdivision or clause and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

A TRUE COPY OF WHICH ORDINANCE IS PRINTED ABOVE WAS INTRODUCED AT THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ON **NOVEMBER 6, 2023** AND THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON TO CONSIDER PASSAGE OF SAID ORDINANCE AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 509 ROUTE 523, WHITEHOUSE STATION, NEW JERSEY, ON **NOVEMBER 20, 2023** AT 7:45 P.M. AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE, OR AT ANY TIME OR PLACE TO WHICH THE MEETING SHALL BE FROM TIME TO TIME ADJOURNED AN OPPORTUNITY WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED THEREIN TO BE HEARD CONCERNING SAID ORDINANCE.

KARIN M PARKER, *RMC*
MUNICIPAL CLERK

