

From: Chief Habersham <11200minotolafireco112@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 9:50 AM
To: Rick Tonetta <solicitor@buenaboro.org>
Cc: minotola112secretary@gmail.com
Subject: ***EXTERNAL*** Re: FW: Potential Dissolution of Fire District No. 2

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No such letter will be written by me (Chief Habersham) unless approved by the membership of the Minotola Fire Co. Sta. 11-2. As stated, whomever is in charge of this needs to reach out to the President and request to speak to the membership for their thoughts, opinions, and concerns.

On Tue, Nov 22, 2022 at 16:27 Rick Tonetta <solicitor@buenaboro.org> wrote:

President Chapman,

Sorry, but my first email went to an incorrect address. Chief Habersham corrected me and I am forwarding my previously sent email to you.

Rick Tonetta

From: Rick Tonetta
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 3:22 PM
To: minotolasecretary112@gmail.com; 11200minotolafireco112@gmail.com
Cc: David Zappariello <mayordave@buenaboro.org>; Patricia Andalaro <patricia.andalaro@buenaboro.org>; Douglas Adams <douglas.adams@buenaboro.org>; Gina Andalaro <gina.andalaro@buenaboro.org>; Joseph D'Alessandro, III <joseph.dalessandro@buenaboro.org>; Jorge Alvarez <jorge.alvarez@buenaboro.org>
Subject: Potential Dissolution of Fire District No. 2

Dear President Chapman and Chief Habersham,

Kindly take note that I am the Solicitor for the Borough of Buena, having been appointed in July of this year. As you are probably aware, the Borough has dissolved Fire District No. 1 and its Commissioners and has extended the jurisdiction of Fire District No. 2 to include all of Buena Borough. Subsequently to that, the Borough received a petition executed by not less than 5% of the voters to create a new fire

district as required by and in accordance with NJSA 40A:14-70. Council received and filed the petition, however, and a few weeks later, another petition was received by Council, this time petitioning the dissolution of Fire District No. 2. It was signed by not less than 5% of the voters as required by and in accordance with NJSA 40A: 14-91. Council will table the first petition since, if the second one is favorably considered, the first one is moot.

If Council favorably considers the adoption of an ordinance dissolving the fire districts, oversight for fire suppression and prevention will then fall onto the Mayor and Council instead of any commissioners. Nothing else would change. It is my understanding that Minotola Fire Company has agreed to provide fire suppression and prevention to the Borough through the Fire Commissioners as required by NJSA 40A:14-70.1, and should the Commissioners and District be dissolved, the agreement would pass on to the Mayor and Council as outlined in NJSA 40A:14-68.

Councilman Adams reached out to Chief Habersham to discuss the continuation of fire suppression services under the same terms and conditions set forth with the Commissioners. While the Chief certainly believes the Minotola Fire Company's main purpose is to provide for fire suppression and prevention to the Borough residents and adjacent municipalities as requested for mutual aid, he felt it is necessary to make sure your office concurs and will continue to provide the same services whether through the commissioners or governing body so a seamless transition takes place. To that end, and provided Council adopts an Ordinance to dissolve the fire district and commissioners, please provide me and the governing body with your company's intent to continue providing excellent and professional services to the residents of the Borough by letter at your earliest convenience. As Council will consider this matter at their Special Meeting scheduled for November 30, 2022, your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

Richard P. Tonetta, Esq.

Solicitor, Borough of Buena

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