

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-06

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF THE
BOROUGH OF RED BANK TO REVISE CHAPTER 64, "FIRE DEPARTMENT"**

Councilman Whelan offered the following ordinance and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, 64-1 through 64-42 of the Code of the Borough of Red Bank establishes rules and regulations addressing the organization and operation of the volunteer fire department in and for the Borough of Red Bank to be known as the "Red Bank Fire Department"; and

WHEREAS, 64-6 of the Code of the Borough of Red Bank currently provides that membership of the Red Bank Fire Department shall be divided into engine, hose, hook and ladder companies; Fire Police unit and First Aid and Rescue Squad and the members thereof; and

WHEREAS, on the effective date of 64-6 of the Code of the Borough of Red Bank there were six (6) "fire companies" in the Borough of Red Bank, namely Navesink Hook and Ladder Company, Relief Engine Company, Independent Engine Company, Liberty Hose Company, Union Hose Company, and Westside Hose Company; and

WHEREAS, all six (6) fire companies are independent non-profit corporations organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of Red Bank has determined that it is necessary to reduce the number of engine companies from five (5) to four (4) due to budgetary and operational purposes; and

WHEREAS, to put in effect this planned reduction in apparatus the Borough of Red Bank has sold two firehouses, disposed of one engine apparatus, a rescue truck, and has relocated two engine companies, namely Independent Engine Company and Liberty Hose Company; and

WHEREAS, said actions have resulted in the reassignment of the engine previously operated by Relief Engine Company to Westside Hose Company, thus leaving Relief Engine Company without an apparatus; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Council of the Borough of Red Bank Fire Department established under 64-11 of the Code of the Borough of Red Bank has determined that the public interest is no longer served by the Borough's recognition and maintenance of Relief Engine Company as an active firefighting unit within the Red Bank Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Council of the Borough of Red Bank Fire Department has determined further that the public interest would be best served by having the members of Relief Engine Company who choose to continue to be active firefighters do so as members of one of the five remaining active fire companies of the Red Bank Fire Department namely Navesink Hook and Ladder Company, Independent Engine Company, Liberty Hose Company, Union Hose Company or Westside Hose Company; and

WHEREAS, *the Executive Council of the Borough of Red Bank Fire Department does not intend by this Ordinance amendment to discourage volunteerism in the Red Bank Fire Department, and nothing contained herein shall be construed or interpreted as a prohibition or restriction against current members of Relief Engine Company from retaining their membership in the newly designated "Historical Relief Engine Company" and becoming active members of any of the other five (5) recognized fire companies outside the scope of existing membership requirements and regulations pursuant to Title 15 of the Revised Statutes or Title 15A of the*

New Jersey Statutes; Membership in a volunteer fire company or similar organization constituted in a fire district pursuant to NJSA 40A:14-70.1; and

***WHEREAS**, the Executive Council of the Borough of Red Bank Fire Department does recognize the history of Relief Engine Company, the dedication of it's members and years of service to the Borough, it is respectfully requested to designate Relief Engine Company as an auxiliary unit of the Red Bank Fire Department as a Historical Company and its members shall be provided with all such benefits as are available to members of the established auxiliary units of the Fire Department; and*

***WHEREAS**, the newly established "Historical Relief Engine Company" may accept membership from any current active member of the Fire Department as well as associate members who do not necessarily qualify as either active or active associate members of a Fire Company, or are not affiliated with any Fire Company.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Red Bank, based upon the recommendation of the Executive Council of the Borough of Red Bank Fire Department, the following amendments to the Code of the Borough of Red Bank be made effective retroactively to January 1, 2018;

New 64-1. Officers-Composition of Department

The Red Bank Volunteer Fire Department shall consist of five (5) active firefighting companies,

Namely; Navesink Hook and Ladder Company, Independent Engine Company, Liberty Hose Company, Union Hose Company and Westside Hose Company; and three (3) auxiliary/support units, namely Fire Police Unit, First Aid and Rescue Squad and Historical Relief Engine Company and the members thereof.

~~A. Composition of Department Officers~~

64-2.a.(1). Election of officers, shall be amended to read as follows: "Nomination of Chief Officers shall be made by each company in rotation so that the Chief will be elected by the following perpetual schedule:

- (a) Independent Engine Company
- (b) Westside Hose Company
- (c) Liberty Hose Company
- (d) Union Hose Company
- (e) Relief Engine Company
- (f) (e)Navesink Hook and Ladder Company

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED THAT all other parts of provisions of Chapter 64 of the Code of the Borough of Red Bank or any other ordinance or regulation not specifically amended by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Seconded by Councilman Taylor and introduced on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilman Taylor	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Whelan	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Yngstrom	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Ballard	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Zipprich	(x)	()	()	()
Councilman Horgan	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: March 14, 2018