

**BOROUGH OF EMERSON
COUNTY OF BERGEN
NOTICE OF ADOPTION**

ORDINANCE NO. 1639-21

Introduced: October 19, 2021

Adopted: November 23, 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following ordinance was adopted on the second reading after a Public Hearing at the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Emerson on the 23rd day of November, 2021. A copy of Ordinance 1639-21 is on file in the Borough Clerk's Office in the Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Place, Emerson, NJ 07630.

**AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 35 FIRE DEPARTMENT
SECTION 19 FIRE CADET PROGRAM**

~~§ 35-19 Fire Cadet Program.~~

- ~~A. There shall be a Fire Cadet Program within the Fire Department of the Borough of Emerson.~~
- ~~B. All persons between the ages of 14 to 17 years may apply for membership in the Fire Cadet Program subject to the bylaws and rules of the Fire Department.~~
- ~~C. Members of the Fire Cadet Program shall only assist with nonhazardous duties. Those duties may include assistance in the maintenance of equipment and vehicles, the cleaning thereof and the restoration of equipment after a fire drill or call. Members of the Cadet Program shall receive training to prepare them to become full-fledged members of the Department.~~
- ~~D. Fire Cadet membership shall require permission from parents or guardian, said permission must be in writing and notarized and must confirm that the applicant is in good health and of sound mind and body, to be evidenced by a certificate to that effect duly attested by a licensed physician of the State of New Jersey.~~
- ~~E. The Fire Department may through its bylaws or rules and regulations establish additional requirements for cadet membership.~~
- ~~F. Acceptance to the Fire Cadet Program shall be subject to approval by the Mayor and Council.~~

§ 35-19 Emerson Junior Firefighter's Program.

- A. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-95 et seq., there is hereby established in the Borough of Emerson a Jr. Fire Department of the Borough of Emerson to be known as the Emerson Junior Firefighter's Program, hereinafter referred to as the "organization."
- B. Purpose of the organization. The purpose of this organization shall be as follows:
- (1) To augment the Emerson Fire Department.
 - (2) To relieve regular firefighters for more hazardous duties.
 - (3) Members are to be trained as future replacements for the regular, uniformed Fire Department.
- C. Organization.
- (1) The Junior Firefighter's Program shall consist of no more than 20 members.
 - (2) The organization shall be directed by three liaison officers who shall be members of the regular Emerson Fire Department and be classified as either present or former firematic officers of said Department. Said officers are to be appointed by the Chief of the Emerson Fire Department.
 - (3) The rules and regulations governing the organization are to be established by the Board of Fire Officers after submission to and approval by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Emerson.
- D. Qualifications for membership. The qualifications for membership in the Emerson Junior Firefighter's Program shall be as follows:
- (1) Each member shall be between the ages of 16 and 18 years.
 - (2) Each member shall be a resident of the Borough of Emerson or a contiguous municipality.
 - (3) Each member shall pass a physical examination, identical to that required for acceptance by the regular uniformed force of the Fire Department. The cost of the examination shall be borne by the Borough of Emerson.
 - (4) Each member of the organization shall be required to obtain permission from his or her parents or guardian pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-96. Said permission shall be in writing, in the presence of one of the liaison officers and acknowledged by a notary public or attorney of the State of New Jersey.
- E. Rules and regulations. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-98, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Emerson hereby establishes the following rules and regulations to govern the activities of the Junior Firefighter's Program.
- (1) No junior firefighter shall be required to perform duties which would expose said junior fireman to the same degree of hazard as a regular member of a Volunteer Fire Department. More specifically, no junior firefighter shall enter a burning structure or hazardous area until said area is declared safe by the Emerson Fire Department.
 - (2) Fire training for the Junior Firefighter's Program shall be in such form and in such frequency as shall be ordered by the Board of Fire Officers, which is hereby empowered to supervise, regulate and control the training of the Junior Firefighter's Program subject to the limitations imposed by law.

- (3) The Junior Firefighter's Program shall assist the Fire Department at alarms. They shall attend their assigned company drills every month, in addition to attending normal drills, meetings, cleanups, and inspections.
- (4) When traveling on a fire apparatus of any kind, the junior firefighter must be seated and properly restrained on said vehicle.
- (5) All members of the Junior Firefighter's Program shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Emerson Fire Department, and for these purposes said rules and regulations of the Emerson Fire Department are hereby adopted and published as rules and regulations of the Junior Firefighter's Program.
- (6) Applications for membership in the Emerson Junior Firefighter's Program shall be made on approved forms, as prescribed by the Board of Fire Officers of the Emerson Fire Department. The Department shall supply to the Borough Clerk with application packets and the Clerk shall distribute them on written request or on personal request made during normal business hours. Completed application packets shall be submitted to one of the liaisons of the Junior Firefighter's Program. The Board of Fire Officers shall act on all applications within 30 days of their receipt. Applicants passed by the Board of Fire Officers and approved by the Mayor and Council shall immediately be placed on the membership rolls.
- (7) Violations. Any member of the Junior Firefighter's Program who shall violate the rules and regulations of the Fire Department shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings before the Board of Fire Officers in such manner and form as they shall establish for these purposes.
- F. Insurance coverage. Members of the Emerson Junior Firefighter's Program shall be insured with the same coverage and with the same amount as members of the regular Emerson Fire Department.
- G. Reports. Reports on the activities of the organization shall be submitted by the Chief's appointed representatives at least every six months. Said reports shall be submitted to the Board of Fire Officers and the Mayor and Council.
- H. Responsibility. Program members are subject to the chain of command and rules and regulations of the fire company to which they have been assigned.

ATTEST:

Jane Dietsche, RMC, Borough Clerk

Danielle DiPaola, Mayor

DATE: _____