

MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

May 23, 2024 – 5:03 p.m.

Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners Ahern, Fox, LaCroix and Riccio. Also present was Chief Mahoney and Assistant Chief Brian Koczak.

Commissioner Massey called for a moment of silence in honor of Commissioner Madeline Clem and recognized her 30 years of service and dedication to the board and department. She will be greatly missed by all.

Motion made by Commissioner Riccio to approve the meeting minutes of April 25, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

Personnel – Commissioner Massey reported that the department responded to a structure fire at 180 North Main Street, one patient had to be transported with non-life threatening injuries. The RTM unanimously passed the budget. This budget included 16 new full-time EMT positions. This is phase 1 phase 2 will include additional personnel. Chief Mahoney stated that they are onboarding the 16 new EMTs. They will need to purchase additional equipment for Station 9 such as lockers, etc. These additional expenses will be within budget. The following members will be receiving awards from Yale New Haven Center for EMS for successful cardiac arrest saves during 2023: Elizabeth Anerson, Clayton Jerzyk, Garrett Lizee, Eric Desruisseaux, Christopher Fig, Meaghan Hayes, Kevin O'Donnell, Erin Conroy, Joseph Petrosino, Mark Testa. The following have been nominated to receive individual awards: Erin Conroy, Jess Ebersole and Dispatcher Denise Stein. Commissioner Massey also welcomed Paulina Smaga as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic. She started on May 6, 2024 and is assigned to Division 2.

Finance – Commissioner Riccio reported that there are no transfers at this time. The Repair and Maintenance account is \$27,000 over budget due to increases in major vehicle and apparatus repairs and inflation. This will require another transfer at the end of the fiscal year.

Training – commissioner Massey reported that since the last meeting training has included Ventilation, Marine Emergencies/ Operations and Marine Firefighting. Monthly mayday drill are ongoing. Marine 2 Helmsmen training in ongoing. Over a recent two-week period, four deliveries of Pediatric Advanced Life Support refresher were conducted by Assistant Drive Master of EMS Lizee. Firefighter Gionteris was certified as an Aerial Operator. Firefighters Mazzarella and Canny were cleared as operators of Rescue 2 and Truck 1 and Company 2 member William Mannel recently completed Firefighter 1 and is now an interior certified firefighter.

Apparatus – Commissioner LaCroix reported that there are 71 pending work orders. Engine 1 is out of service and the Aerial truck has an emissions issue. Marine 5 has a plumbing problem, it has been temporarily fixed.

EMS – Commissioner Fox reported that the YTD ambulance revenue is \$2,138,635. There have been 4,712 incidents from July 1, 2023 through May 22, 2024. 3,030 transports to area hospitals. The department has received its amended Certificate of Operation from the State Office of Emergency Medical Services authorizing us to add another R5 (Paramedic First Response Vehicle) and a branch location. This will allow the department to operate at the paramedic level from Station 9 reducing response times to the southern area of town.

Buildings – Commissioner Ahern reported that the service of the 32 Acorn Road property has been completed by Criscuolo Engineering and filed with the town. The Fueling Station is being installed at Fire Headquarters.

Pensions and Communications – Commissioner Massey reported that the Volunteer Stipends have been paid out. 19 of the 42 eligible volunteers earned a stipend for 2023. He provided a brief overview of the Fire Marshal's report. The Brycer Compliance system has been very helpful in recording fire safety systems at the start of new construction. The office has been working on organizing and identifying private fire hydrants. They continue to investigate motor vehicle fire and structure fire incidents. Two new Deputy Fire Marshals have started.

Chief's Report – Chief Mahoney reported that there have been 6,056 calls for service from July 1 to May 22, 2024 averaging 18.5 calls per day. Friday was the busiest day.

Assistant Chief's report – Assistant Chief Koczak reported that OSHA has completed inspections at Co. 5 and Co. 2. A couple of small items that were identified and are being addressed as a result of the visit. He has been attending Rope Rescue training class.

Old Business – none.

New Business:

Commissioner Massey stated that were hoping for a good estimate within the next 120 days for the proposed building for the Acorn Road property.

Motion made by Commissioner Ahern to name the Commissioner's Room in honor of Madeline "Buzz" Clem. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

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Motion made by Commissioner Riccio to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk