

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING
COMMISSIONER IRENE DIXON
COMMISSIONER OSCAR DESTRUGE

REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Commissioner Irene Dixon,
Commissioner Oscar Destruge (3:08 p.m.)

STAFF: Acting Fire Chief Laurence Reilly, Michelle DeLuca, Emergency
Operations; Chris Hansen, Fire Marshal; Lefty Petridis, Union
President, Firefighter Tim Reardon, Deputy Chief Gino Gatto

OTHERS:

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Riling called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

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The following corrections were noted.

Page 2, under **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**: following the third bullet point: please reformat the following from:

FROM:

“The most significant news is that CWH has been sold to IOS and it will be determined what contractual arrangements are transferable.

Mayor Rilling requested an executive summary of the breakdown of applicants tested and any key issues for follow-up action for the Commissioners.

TO:

“• The most significant news is that CWH has been sold to IOS and it will be determined what contractual arrangements are transferable.

Mayor Rilling requested an executive summary of the breakdown of applicants tested and any key issues for follow-up action for the Commissioners.

Page 3, paragraph 2, line 3: please change: “arrived one scene” to “arrived on scene”.

**** MAYOR RILLING SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015 AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS.

There were no items to consider.

ACTING FIRE CHIEF REPORT

• Budget Report

Acting Chief Reilly said that overtime was the most noteworthy thing

Commissioner Desturge joined the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Acting Chief Reilly noted that this could be the result of the number of vacations in September and October.

Mayor Rilling then asked about staffing in the Fire Marshal's office. A brief discussion followed.

• Firefighter Entry Level Testing

Acting Chief Reilly said that 987 candidates took the test on the 5th. The testing company has not released the results yet. The signing of the contract with the new company has taken place. The top candidates must sign up for a physical by a certain date. Because there is no Health, Welfare and Public Safety meeting scheduled before the first Council Meeting, Acting Chief Reilly said that they would like to work on presenting the contract to the full council.

Mayor Rilling then asked about the cut threshold. Acting Chief Reilly explained that due to the large number of applicants, the testing company was recommending a cut score of 85 for two groups and 82 for an additional two groups. Discussion followed about the details.

The discussion then moved to the assignment of potential residency points. Mayor Rilling suggested that the Commission consider this. Acting Chief Reilly said that during the last two test, the Commission gave the candidates 5 points. He said that the residence requirement covers those who live within 25 miles of the city limits.

- **Fire Station Renovation**

On Tuesday, Alan Lo, Jim Himes and Acting Chief Reilly met with the architect. Once everything is approved, the construction should start in the fall.

Acting Chief Reilly said that he had attached the reports for the Rogers Square fire. The investigation is still ongoing.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

Fire Marshal Hansen said that gave a Summary of Activities. He said that since the office is understaffed, the Red Cross was sending out volunteers to install the smoke detectors. Fire Marshal Hansen said that he had drafted up a document about the various duties that the Fire Marshal's office performs.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ms. DeLuca said that there would be an active shooter at the hospital on Thursday. She gave a brief review of the details.

TRAINING REPORT.

Acting Chief Reilly said Captain Smith was on vacation. Captain Smith was the one who administered the Lt. promotional exam. Acting Chief Reilly explained there was a list of the exam results in the Commissioners' information packet.

UNION PRESIDENT REPORT.

Union President Petridis announced that the Firefighters' Union completed their annual Christmas presents delivery to just under 70 households.

OLD BUSINESS.

There was no old business to consider at this time.

NEW BUSINESS.

There was no new business consider at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE.

There were no items to consider at this time.

PERSONNEL.

a. PROMOTIONS

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, and Acting Chief Reilly entered into Executive Session at 3:25 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. They returned to public session at 3:54 p.m. No actions or votes were taken during the Executive Session.

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO PROMOTE ASSISTANT CHIEF LAURENCE REILLY TO THE POSITION OF FIRE CHIEF AS OF JANUARY 16, 2016 CONTINGENT ON THE REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF A FORMAL CONTRACT.**

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO PROMOTE DEPUTY CHIEF GINO GATTO TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF AS OF DECEMBER 15, 2015 CONTINGENT ON THE REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF A FORMAL CONTRACT.**

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO PROMOTE CAPTAIN ALBERT BASSETT TO THE POSITION OF DEPUTY CHIEF EFFECTIVE AS OF DECEMBER 15, 2015.**

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO PROMOTE LIEUTENANT TIM REARDON TO THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO PROMOTE FIREFIGHTER BRIAN THIES TO THE POSITION OF LIEUTENANT EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.**
**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Rilling congratulated all those who were promoted. He said that the administration would schedule a formal promotion ceremony after the first of the year for the firefighters.

Mayor Rilling then announced that this would be Commissioner Dixon's last meeting as a Commissioner. He expressed his deep appreciation for all her work on the Commission and noted that she was now the Assistant City Clerk.

ADJOURNMENT.

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services