

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 16, 2012**

ATTENDANCE: Carol Andreoli; Richard A. Moccia, Mayor., Michael Coffey

STAFF: Denis McCarthy, Fire Chief; Assistant Chief Lawrence Riley;
Todd Smith, Glenn Iannaccone, Fire Marshall;
Michelle Deluca, Emergency Management

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Andreoli.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 MEETING

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Action Items: None

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

2012-13 Budget

Chief McCarthy stated that the budget reports in the packet were self explanatory. He explained that they are in the process of doing a reconciliation report of long term injuries that have resulting long term sick leave numbers trending high than usual. He added that there were no other issues on the budget.

Fire Station Project Report

Chief McCarthy stated that he is very pleased with the progress, and all is going well and on track with the budget and on schedule with timing. He reported that walls are up on the first and second floor and exterior masonry is going up next.

Chief McCarthy added that one of the questions that has come up from was the security cameras that cost higher than estimated. He explained that the decision would have cost \$27,000 and explained further that in an effort to save money on the project, it was decided not to install the security cameras at this time. He added that the furniture should be delivered on Friday and they have decided not to go through a consultant, as this would cost \$45,000 which is also too high.

Chief McCarthy stated that the Fire Boat has been delivered and is in operation and has already been used for a marine rescue. Mr. Coffey asked about the size of the boat, and if there will be an impact on the East Norwalk station.

Chief McCarthy replied that the boat is 38 feet and is modeled after the Bridgeport Marine unit.

He explained there very little effect on the East Norwalk Station because this is a slow station and is the smallest geographical area. Assistant Chief Riley added that the location allows easy access to the beach areas.

Assistant Chief Report

Chief McCarthy referred to the Operations Report and written report of notable incidents for September 2012, and stated that the report was self explanatory and he highlighted that the major incidents as follows:

NOTABLE INCIDENTS

09.03: 10:54, Norwalk Islands, kayakers in distress. FD located several different groups of kayakers who were tired from paddling and unable to reach land due to high winds and the flood tide. The FD Marine unit located the kayakers and returned them to land along with their kayaks. The FD Marine unit also picked up two passengers of a sailboat that had run aground off Sheffield Island.

09.13: 21:54, WolfpitAve, EMS, cardiac arrest. FD assisted police officer who was first on scene administering CPR on patient.

09.13: 8 Rockridge Dr, house fire. FD extinguished a fire in a rear enclosed deck. There was no extension into the house itself.

09.16, 20:15. -95, MVA. A 3 car accident caused a total of ten injuries. All ten parties were transported to Norwalk Hospital with injuries (mostly minor).

EQUIPMENT AND BUILDINGS

All department ladders were subjected to annual NFPA required testing. Approximately 1,000 hydrants have been painted. All hydrants north of a line running roughly from Flax Hill Road at the Darien town line to Winfield Street at the Westport town line have been painted. 136 hydrants were painted by James Korin of Timberline Road who volunteered to do this for his Eagle Scout project.

FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT

Fire Marshal Iannaccone presented his report representing a total of nearly 288 units for 223 hours. He noted that there were very busy with many 3-6 family houses done, certificate of occupancy inspections and several varied license inspections, some as a result of complaints, most were routine. Fire Marshall Iannaccone stated that an additional \$3,193.50 in fees was collected in September and the total is over \$25,000 since April.

*SUBJECT: Fees collected September 2012, for the following services:
Plan Reviews and C of Os, Oil Tank Removal Permits,
Blasting Permits, Hazmat Truck Inspections, Incident Reports,
Site Searches and CD photo files*

<i>Services (September 1st thru 30th, 2012)</i>	<i>Total Fees</i>
<i>Plan Reviews and C of Os</i>	<i>\$2,250.00</i>
<i>Oil Tank Removal Permits, Blasting Permits, Hazmat Vehicle Inspections, Incident Reports, Site Searches and CD photo files</i>	<i>\$ 943.50</i>

Grand Total = \$3,193.50

Emergency Management

Ms. DeLuca stated that the Open House last month was successful with over 1,600 in attendance

and there was great collaboration with the Department of Public Works and Fire Departments. She reported that the Code Red system was put into use during the recent events with an armed individual at Hillside, and they will be following up with the Police Department on the effectiveness of this. She added that there was a good editorial in the paper on this system and that residents appreciated the notification.

Ms. DeLuca reported that at the Public Safety Committee there was discussion regarding how to incorporate the schools with emergency preparedness information and communication to parents. Chief McCarthy explained that there is a plan that was developed and presented through the Superintendents over the past several years, but unfortunately other priorities have interfered with the implementation of the plan on a district-wide level.

Mayor Moccia noted that he has asked Chief McCarthy to send the plan to him, and he would like to add it to a Board of Education meeting agenda for approval and implementation.

Training Report

Recruit Training

Todd Smith provided a summary of the Entry Level Firefighter application breakdown and stated that there are 1347 Applicants, 195 Norwalk Residents, and 209 from the state of Connecticut. He added that 45 are females and he highlighted the numbers by gender and ethnicity. He added that applications for recruits came in from all over the area and everything is on line so reports can be generated as requested.

He then referred to the report of training, and summarized key points as follows:

- 1) Sexual Harassment Training has all been completed as of today.
- 2) Drug Awareness Training has all been completed as of yesterday.
- 3) A Separate Officer Substance Awareness Recognition is being set up.
- 4) The Second Orientation for new recruits is done and starting tomorrow the seven week course on test preparation will begin.

A discussion ensued on the C-pass testing accommodations and the state recognition of other state testing. Chief McCarthy added that no other towns provide test preparation and they require \$165 for the physical ability tests. He added that he feels that this creates a hardship for those financially disadvantaged along with a time delay of eight weeks with the certification completion. Mayor Moccia added that the Council approved use of the testing service and extended an acknowledgment to Todd, Broderick and Adam Bovilsky for their hard work with the recruiting efforts.

Union President Report – There was no report.

Personnel - There was no Executive Session.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Knox
Telesco Secretarial Services