

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING
COMMISSIONER/PASTOR OSCAR DESTRUGE
COMMISSIONER LARRY L. BENTLEY

REGULAR MEETING
October 15, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Commissioner Larry Bentley, Commissioner Oscar Destruge (3:10 p.m.)

STAFF: Fire Chief Gino Gatto; Assistant Chief Chris King; Deputy Chief Michael McCallum; Michelle DeLuca, Emergency Management, Fire Marshal Broderick Sawyer, Mr. Ray Burney, Personnel Director; Firefighter Bill Ireland, Jr., Local 830; Fire Inspector Dale Roos, Fire Inspector David Burrows

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

Regular Meeting – September 17, 2019.

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items to consider at this time.

PERSONNEL

a. Swearing-In for:

- Inspector Dale Roos
- Inspector David Burrows

Mayor Rilling administered the Oath of Office to Inspector Roos and Inspector Burrows.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT.

a. Budget Report.

Chief Gatto said that the budget was now over three months into the new fiscal year. He reviewed the details included in the information packet with the Commissioners.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Operations Report.

Assistant Chief King reviewed the various categories of fire calls as outlined in his reports for September 2019. He also reviewed the notable incidents that occurred during the month with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Destrugge joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

a. Summary of Activities.

b. Fire Reports.

c. Fire Marshal Fees.

Fire Marshal Sawyer presented his report. Mayor Rilling asked about the relocation of the fire victims and asked if there were illegal apartments involved. Fire Marshal Sawyer said that there were two illegal apartments involved. Discussion followed.

The discussion moved to the fact that the mall paid to have the Fire Marshals on site.

Commissioner Destrugge asked if there was any way to utilize the information obtained by the census takers. Mayor Rilling said that the census takers could not share any information they gather with anyone. It is totally confidential. However if the census workers notice something like a strong smell of gas, they would notify the appropriate authorities. Discussion followed.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

Emergency Management Update.

Ms. DeLuca said that there were 16 residents who needed Red Cross assistance after the Grove Avenue fire and how she was able to assist them.

The October 5th Open House went well and had a good turnout.

There was a meeting with the mall management to insure that they are up to date on emergency management.

Ms. DeLuca then spoke about potential grant possibilities.

TRAINING REPORT.

Company Training Objectives

Chief McCallum reviewed the Training Division Report with the Commissioners.

a. Tour of King Industries.

b. Lead Climb Class at First District Water Tower

c. Pre-Fire Plan Tours of SONO Collection Mall

Mayor Rilling noted that the ambulances can not fit into the parking garage.

d. Update and Progress on Injury Prevention Program for Fire Department.

Deputy Chief McCallum reported that the Wellness Coordinator was on site during the week to give classes.

e. Update New Recruit

The first evaluation has been received and that this is the largest recruit class with 67 candidates, along with the largest number of paramedics at the same time.

LOCAL 830 REPORT.

Breast Cancer T Shirt Fundraiser

Firefighter Ireland gave a brief overview of the fund raising project to support breast cancer victims and their families. He said that they look for the less well known charities and were able to provide funding to a Norwalk teacher who lost a young family member to cancer last year.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Gatto stated that three letters had recently been received. (See attached)

Commissioner Bentley asked if the letters of appreciations were filtered down to the rank and file. Firefighter Ireland suggested that he could read the letters to the membership during the meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

a. EXECUTIVE SESSION

• Entry Level Exam

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE ENTRY LEVEL EXAM.**

**** THE MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, Chief Gatto, Assistant Chief King, Deputy Chief McCallum, and Mr. Burney entered into Executive Session to discuss the Entry Level Exam at 3:38 p.m. They returned to public session at 4:01 p.m. No actions or motions were made during Executive Session.

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO JOIN THE IOS TESTING CONSORTIUM FOR ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTER ON A TRIAL BASIS TO DETERMINE OUR RECRUITMENT SATISFACTORILY.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEW BUSINESS.

There were no item to consider at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services