

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING
COMMISSIONER/PASTOR OSCAR DESTRUGE

FIRE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

This meeting was conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Chair; Commissioner Oscar Destruge

STAFF: Assistant Chief Mark Conte; Assistant Chief Edward McCabe; Michele DeLuca, Emergency Management; Fire Marshal; Deputy Chief Jonathan Maggio

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 – July 19, 2022

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED THE MINUTES OF JULY 19 , 2022.**

The following corrections were noted:

Page 2, please change the section heading from:

“ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF’S OF ADMINISTRATION REPORT”

To: “ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION REPORT”

Page 4, please change the section heading from: **“TRAINING’S DIVISION REPORT”**

To: TRAINING DIVISION REPORT.

Page 4, under **Fire Marshal's Report**, paragraph 2, line 3: please change:

“This will bring him up to two part time inspectors.”

to : “This will bring the department up to two part time inspectors.”

**** THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 19, 2022 MEETING AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

There were no items to consider at this time.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Budget Report

Assistant Chief McCabe presented Chief Gatto's report. Many of the supplies had increased since the various budgets were estimated. Assistant Chief McCabe then requested that the funding be rolled over. Discussion followed.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION

a. ESO RMS Upgrade

- o ESO software is live.
- o Data migration is ongoing.

b. Station Alerting System Upgrade

- o PURVIS has been contracted.
- o Awaiting assignment of a project manager.

c. Buildings

- o Station 1 Renovation Status Update
 - o All work has been completed.
- o Station 3 Apparatus Floor
 - o Awaiting Engineer's drawings.
- o Station 5 New Roof Installation
 - o Currently in the process of seeking additional funding.
 - o BET approval was gained at the 09/12 meeting.
- o Station 5 Bathroom Renovation
 - o Planning phase to upgrade the firefighters' bathroom.

Assistant Chief Conte presented his report.

Mayor Rilling asked if there was a timeline for the completion of the Station 3 floor. Assistant Chief Conte said that now that their budget has been finalized, the work could start in July. However, Assistant Chief Conte said he wanted to review the details in terms of the weight load with the engineer. Discussion followed.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

- a. Resumed weekly Mayday radio tests based on updated protocols. These tests provide training for the Deputy Chiefs, Chief's Aides, and Dispatchers for running a firefighter Mayday operation.**
- b. Discussed with Rowayton FD Chief about providing automatic aid to Rowayton for structure fires at specific times of day and responses to high occupancy buildings, such as schools in session. Rowayton FD also provides mutual aid coverage to Norwalk FD on a third alarm.**
- c. All Truck 2 captains and drivers received professional training on the new Seagrave tractor-drawn aerial truck from a Seagrave factory representative. The new apparatus will be going into service out of Headquarters in the coming weeks.**
- d. Norwalk Fire personnel provided a fire watch detail for the 2022 Oyster Fest. NFD maintained an Engine company with first responder capabilities on-site throughout the duration of the event.**

Assistant Chief McCabe presented his report and reviewed the details with the Commissioners.

Assistant Chief McCabe then gave a brief overview of the major incidents that happened in June.

Mayor Rilling said that there would be three vacancies and wished to know when they would be able to enroll more candidates into the Fire Academy. Assistant Chief McCabe said that he believed that it would be in the spring. A number of probationary firefighters are nearing the end of their probation.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

- a. Summary of Activities**
- b. Fire Reports**
- c. Fire Marshal Fees**

One of the Fire Marshals presented the report as detailed in the Commissioners' packets.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- a. Emergency Management Update**

Ms. DeLuca said the Oyster Fest event went off well and an after event meeting will be held in October.

The Connecticut State Police have requested an update for their emergency diversion plan.

She updated the Commissioners about the Active Shooter protocols and how City employees can access the information.

There is nothing currently on the horizon for Hurricane season in this area.

The Open House will be held on October 1st.

TRAINING DIVISION REPORT

- a. Lieutenant's Promotional Exam completed (needs Fire Commission acceptance)**
- b. Captain's Promotional Exam - Written: October 20th, Oral: October 25th and 26th**
- c. Engine Company – Pump and Driver Training**
- d. Ladder Company – Driver/Tiller Training**
- e. Station 3 (Marine Station)**
 - 1. Radar Training**
 - 2. USCG Sta Eatons Neck: Post SAR-Search and Rescue Meeting with OGA partners**
 - 3. Upcoming Electronics Raymarine Manufacturer Training October 5th and 6th**
- f. Elevator Class completed**
- g. Revised May-Day Procedure Implemented – Weekly Dispatch/Fire (Line) Personnel Training**
- h. Seagrave Tiller manufacturer training completed**
- i. Cold Water Immersion Training – Cold Water Boot Camp**
- j. Engine Company Training – Long Stretch hose line deployment / upcoming standpipe operations**
- k. Wellness Coordinator**
 - 1. Daily Injury Prevention Program**
 - 2. Pilot for Nutrition Education**
 - 3. Scheduling Wellness Re-Assessments Oct/Nov**

Deputy Chief Maggio presented his report to the Commissioners.

LOCAL 830 REPORT

There was no report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to consider at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items to consider at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters attached
Assistant Chief McCabe then reviewed the recently received correspondence from Mrs. Anderson, the widow of the late Chief Anderson along with a thank you from Mr. Brian Smith, the Registrar of Voters.

Assistant Chief McCabe then read the letter of resignation from Firefighter Hector Ramirez due to medical issues.

PERSONNEL

a. Announced Retirement:

o Firefighter Hector Ramirez (DROP Pension)

Mayor Rilling wished Firefighter Ramirez the best.

**** COMMISSIONER DESTURGE MOVED WITH REGRET TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR A DROP PENSION FOR FIREFIGHTER HECTOR RAMIREZ.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Assistant Chief McCabe said that Deputy Chief Prescott retired after 36 years on August 31, 2022. Assistant Chief McCabe congratulated Deputy Chief Prescott on all his years of service. This retirement resulted in several promotions as follows:

Deputy Chief of Training Adam Markowitz was promoted to Deputy Chief on September 1, 2022.

Captain Jonathan Maggio was promoted to Deputy Chief of Training on September 1, 2022.

Lieutenant Adam Sussman was promoted to Captain on September 1, 2022.

Firefighter David Janofsky was promoted to Lieutenant on September 7, 2022.

This leaves the Department with three vacancies and another eight pending DROP retirements for a total of 11 vacancies by January 1st. Chief Gatto would like begin interviewing candidates from the current list starting in October.

**** COMMISSIONER DESTURGE MOVED AUTHORIZE CHIEF GATTO TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS FOR THE UPCOMING VACANCIES.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER DESTURGE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services