

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

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

REGULAR MEETING
August 21, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Chair; Commissioner Larry Bentley,
Commissioner Oscar Destruge (via video conferencing)

STAFF: Fire Chief Gino Gatto; Assistant Chief Chris King, Fire Marshal
Broderick Sawyer, Michele DeLuca, Deputy Director of
Emergency Management; Deputy Chief Michael McCallum

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

Regular Meeting – July 17, 2018

The following corrections were noted:

Page 1, under **ATTENDANCE**: please make the following change:

“Commissioner Oscar Destruge (via Skype)”
to: “Commissioner Oscar Destruge (via video conferencing)”.

Page 2, under **FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT**, paragraph 1, line 1: please change the
following from: “Chief Gatto gave an brief” to “Chief Gatto gave a brief”

Page 2, under **FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT**, paragraph 1, line 3: please change the
following from: “He explained where that was reflecting in the” to “He explained
where it was reflected in the”

Page 2, under **FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT**, paragraph 4, line 1, please change: "Her said that he had" to "He said that he had"

Page 4, under **PERSONNEL**, paragraphs 2 through the Motion: please change the following from:

The Commissioners, Mr. Burney, Chief Gatto and Assistant Chief King entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 3:25 p.m. They returned to public session at 3:40 p.m. No motions made and no votes were taken in Executive Session.

Chief Gatto will receive a 1.1% raise retroactive to 01/01/2018 and a 1.25% raise retroactive to 07/01/2018. Chief King will receive a 1.25% raise retroactive to 07/01/2018 pending successful completion of his probationary period.

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF CHIEF GATTO AND ASSISTANT CHIEF KING TO MATCH THOSE ALREADY GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF LOCAL 830 PER THEIR CONTRACT.**

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

TO:

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**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chief Gatto will receive a 1.25% raise retroactive to 07/01/2018. Chief King will receive a 1.25% raise retroactive to 07/01/2018 pending successful completion of his probationary period.

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018.**

**** THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2018 AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items to consider at this time.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT.

a. Budget Report

Chief Gatto gave an brief overview of the budget. The two new Ford Explorers have arrived. At the last Common Council meeting, the appropriation request for the 56 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus replacements was approved. A used cargo truck with 18,000 miles on it is en route to the Department.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Operations Report

Assistant Chief King reviewed the various categories of fire calls as outlined in his report.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

a. Summary of Activities

b. Fire Reports

c. Fire Marshal Fees.

Fire Marshal Sawyer reviewed his report as contained in the packet. He updated the Commissioners about the status of those property owners who were not responding to the letters for inspection.

Fire Marshal Sawyer said that the Kiwanis had donated funding for the fire trailer upgrade.

Mayor Rilling had several questions about the various inspections, including potential hoarding conditions and illegal apartments.

Assistant Chief King reported that the oral testing for the new Fire Marshal is underway.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

Emergency Management Update.

Ms. DeLuca presented her report and reviewed the details for the upcoming Oyster Festival.

On September 26th, there will be a tabletop exercise focused on financial management following FEMA events.

The Annual Open House has been scheduled for September 29th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TRAINING REPORT.

a. Company Training Objectives

- **Completion of Mayday Procedures**
- **Ropes and Knots Training**

b. Promotional Test on going

- **Deputy Chief Test**
- **Inspectors Test**

c. New Hires

- **Three New Hires to Academy 08/27/2018**
- **One New Hire Starts on Shift 08/30/2018**

Deputy Chief McCallum presented his report. The training also included fit testing for the new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus replacements.

Inspector School starts on September 5th.

New Hires will start on August 23rd with orientation and start at the Academy on August 27th.

One new hire has already gone through the Academy and will start on shift on the 30th.

LOCAL 830 REPORT.

There were no items to discuss at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Fire Station Project Updates

Chief Gatto reviewed the Fire Station Repair and Maintenance report dated August 21, 2018 with the Commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no new items to discuss at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Gatto reviewed the letter from the Norwalk Hospital regarding an EMS call in Rowayton on July 6th and a second incident where a firefighter assisted a motorist whose vehicle had broken down.

Chief Gatto reported on additional incident when an individual was cutting a lawn and became ill. The Fire Department responded and after the patient was transported to the hospital by the ambulance crew, the firefighters finished cutting the lawn for the resident.

On August 6th, the Department received a phone call from Ms. Joan Cusack about a 10 year old in Norwalk who is involved with Make a Wish Foundation. While the patient is not terminal, he wants to be a firefighter. The Department has created a list of events for the child. The Make a Wish Foundation has requested that there be no publicity prior to the event.

PERSONNEL

a. Firefighters Joining the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) Pension:

Commissioner Destruge authorized Mayor Rilling to sign the appropriate documents in Commissioner Destruge's stead.

• Captain Christopher Roos

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN (DROP) PENSION FOR CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER ROOS AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2018.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

• Firefighter Michael Fratello

**** COMMISSIONER BENTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN (DROP) PENSION FOR FIREFIGHTER MICHAEL FRATELLO AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2018.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services