

**CITY OF NORWALK**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**August 17, 2021**

This meeting was conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

**ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Harry Rilling, Chair; Commissioner Oscar Destruge

**STAFF:** Fire Chief Gino Gatto; Assistant Chief Al Bassett; Deputy Chief of Training Adam Markowitz; Fire Marshal Broderick Sawyer; Assistant Chief Edward McCabe; DeLuca, Emergency Management.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. A quorum was present.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting – July 20, 2021**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2021.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2021 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

There were no action items to consider at this time.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT.**

City of Norwalk  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
August 17, 2021

**a. Budget Report.**

Chief Gatto reported that they were one month into the new budget. They are currently at 87% and he hoped to carry that for the remainder of the year.

Commissioner Destruge asked if there were any last minute adjustments to the budget that affected the final line. Chief Gatto said that he would have to check into this.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION**

**a. Assistant Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

Assistant Chief Bassett said that they had received a grant award and the funding will be used to replace work out equipment. There is a 10% matching fund requirement. Some of the old exercise equipment will be given to the Rowayton Fire Department.

**b. Information Technology Update**

Assistant Chief Bassett said that they are working on the new system and some glitches have become apparent. Due to this, it was not presented to the Finance Committee at their last meeting.

He also spoke about how they were working on updating the inspection process and the sign up process

**ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS**

**Coordination of Fire Commission Interviews With Candidates**

Chief Gatto said they had gone through the interview process for new candidates and twelve candidates received potential hiring offers. They are looking at potential mid-September start dates.

**Working With Deputy Chiefs to Arrange Platoon Vacancies for New Personnel**

The Deputy Chief and Shift Commanders are working on balancing out the skill out in the various shifts.

There were 710 called in July, 15 fires, including 1 building fire. Chief Gatto then reviewed the various calls with the Commissioners.

**FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT**

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

Fire Marshal Sawyer presented his report. There were 125 inspections, 36 of which were residential properties.

Commissioner Destruge asked if the Office was fully staffed. Fire Marshal Sawyer said that one person was still out.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.**

Ms. DeLuca said that there was a Planning meeting with the Seaport Association, which is a routine part of the planning for the Oyster Festival. The Event Action Plan will be reviewed, including staffing, EMS, Public Works and the Health Department.

Ms. DeLuca said that they were still planning on having an Open House on September 13:00. They are looking at potential alternatives such as a drive thru in case there are COVID restrictions in place.

The Federal Administration is looking at some funding to address Climate Change and Mitigation issues.

Eversource is releasing some of their training materials. Ms. DeLuca said that she had taken one unit. It will allow some individuals to enter problem issues directly into their system. It will allow them to know how many crews are in any given area.

### **TRAINING'S DIVISION REPORT.**

- a. Elevator Emergencies**
- b. Nutrition and Wellness Overview (Continuation of Part 1)**
- c. Marine Unit 238 Overview**
- d. Marine Unit 238 Search and Rescue Training**
- e. Active Shooter EMS Training**
- f. Stokes Basket Patient Packaging Training**
- g. Planning has Begun for New Recruit Training**
- h. Truck 2 Driver Training**

Deputy Chief Markowitz presented his report.

Mayor Rilling asked about the active shooter training. Deputy Chief Markowitz said that right now, the focus was on working with EMS.

Commissioner Destruge asked if there was an update on the vaccination status of the Department. Deputy Chief Markowitz said that there were three or four new vaccination reports. The Department is back up to the full complement. Discussion followed about break through cases and the booster shots.

#### **LOCAL 830 REPORT**

There was no report at this time.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Update on Building Repairs.**

• **Broad River –Station One** – Assistant Chief Bassett said that they were still were working with the lawyers on this.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

There was no new business to consider at this time.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to review at this time.

#### **PERSONNEL**

There were no personnel items to consider at this time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services