

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
JULY 15, 2014**

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Irene Dixon, Oscar Destruge

STAFF: Denis McCarthy, Fire Chief; Captain Todd Smith, Training;
Michelle Deluca, Emergency Operations.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Destruge called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections noted:

Page 3: Under Stations and Equipment, bullet one, in the last sentence, “out” should be ‘from’.

**** COMMISSIONER DIXON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE
JUNE 24, 2014 MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

Budget

Chief McCarthy stated that the 2013-2014 numbers have come in close to budget, with overages in the overtime account offset by surplus amounts in other accounts. He noted that there is \$13,334 available after encumbrances and they are working with the Finance Department on reconciling the final numbers and possible accruals.

Employee Assistance Program

Chief McCarthy stated that this service has transitioned to Behavioral Health. He spoke on the benefits of the department physical program and noted how the identification of hidden health hazards has had an impact on health and wellness of the staff.

Summer Interns

Chief McCarthy stated that they are again participating in the Mayor’s Summer Youth program with two students, Alexis and Aquarius have returned from last year. He added that they are very pleased to have continuity of returning interns and the program provides positive mentorship and meaningful work experience that benefits both the department and the students.

ASSISTANT CHIEF REPORT

Chief McCarthy referred to the report as included in the agenda packet and reviewed the report of notable incidents for June as noted.

- 06/05. 13:25. East Avenue at St. John Street. MVA. FD maintained c-spine on one of the passengers and assisted EMS with packaging patient for transport to the hospital.
- 06/06. 18:12. Merritt Parkway, northbound. MVA. FD found two car MVA. with one patient on the ground. FD maintained c-spine and assisted Westport EMS on their arrival.
- 06/06. 21:38. 307 Connecticut Avenue, building fire. A fire in the overhead soffit of a storefront caused a smoke condition in the building. FD opened up the soffit and extinguished the fire. There was no extension into the building.
- 06/10. 08:38. 52 Main Street, underground explosion. An electrical short in an underground electrical vault caused a fire and explosion which broke the windows of a storefront and blew off several manhole covers in the area. FD checked for extension in buildings in the area and also metered the areas for gas leaks.
- 06/10. 08:48. 525 Connecticut Avenue, gas leak. A forklift broke a gas line inside the building. FD shut off gas at the meter then metered the building to determine if there was any residual gas in the building. FD then ventilated the building to lower gas level in the building.
- 06/13. 17:39. 365 Martin Luther King Drive, car fire. FD extinguished a fire in the engine compartment.
- 06/14. 18:33. 1-95 southbound, car fire. FD arrived and extinguished a fire in a fully involved minivan.
- 06/14. 20:16. Sunset Hill Road. EMS, Possible stroke. PD officer was performing recue breathing on FD arrival. FD started CPR and continued same in ambulance on way to hospital.
- 06/15. 20:03. 77 Grumman Avenue, odor investigation. FD noticed oil burner smell in house and metered for carbon monoxide, finding 77 ppm of CO in the basement. Oil burner and hot water heater were shut down. FD ventilated house and metered until reading dropped to zero throughout house.
- 06/18. 12:36. 31 Couch Street. PD assist. FD was asked to assist PD in removing a combative female who was stranded approximately 25 feet up an incline in a wooden area. FD used a ladder to reach the person, then used ropes and a stokes basket to lower the patient to a waiting EMS unit (patient had been sedated prior to placing her in stokes).
- 06/22. 03:57. EMS, cardiac arrest. EMS on scene prior to FD arrival. FD assisted paramedics with CPR, patient packaging and transport.
- 06/24. 10:23. 108 New Canaan Avenue, EMS, person non responsive. FD found patient with no pulse/not breathing. FD administered CPR and used MED. FD continued CPR in ambulance.
- 06/28. 00:56. Merritt Parkway. northbound between exits 38 and 40. MVA. FD assisted Norwalk and New Canaan EMS with boarding and collaring two patients for transport.
- 06/28. 02:34. 99 East Avenue. PD assist, PD requested assistance with removing an injured man from the roof of a motel. FD used a stokes basket and ropes to lower him to the ground. Patient was combative and was handcuffed prior to placing him in stokes basket.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Chief noted that Fire Marshal Hansen was on vacation and his report is included in the agenda packet that summarizes the activity and inspections for the month. He noted that total units were 179 for over 166 hours representing routine inspections.

TRAINING REPORT

Captain Smith referred to the report as follows:

- Annual Physicals still in progress – delays are due to vacation schedule mode.
- EAP Training with new company completed
- Applied with state to host three Training Programs in upcoming State Fire School calendar year
- Fire Service Instructor Class in preparation for September.

Emergency Management

Ms. Deluca showed a screen on the VEOCI system and explained the planning dashboard site that features web cam capability. She noted that the software is the same as presented to Department Heads and first responders and highlighted the use for event action plans such as the Oyster Festival.

UNION PRESIDENT REPORT – None

OLD BUSINESS/ NEW BUSINESS - None

PERSONNEL - No items

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief McCarthy referred to a letter that thanked two fire-fighters for assisting an elderly couple with directions to a funeral. He spoke about this as just one example of the acts of kindness that the department staff does everyday to go above and beyond

Adjournment

**** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** COMMISSIONER DIXON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services

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Board of Fire Commissioners
July 15, 2014
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