

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MAY 27, 2014**

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Irene Dixon, Oscar Destruge, Mayor Harry Rilling.

STAFF: Denis McCarthy, Fire Chief; Assistant Chief Lawrence Riley;
Deputy Chief Todd Smith, Training; Fire Marshall Hansen;
Michelle Deluca, Emergency Operations.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**** MR. DESTRUGE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE
APRIL 22, 2014 MEETING AS SUBMITTED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Action Items:

None

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Budget

Chief McCarthy stated that the 2013-2014 overtime is tracking very close to the budget with six weeks to go, and it is expected to be slightly over.

Chief McCarthy explained the light-duty clearance program that reconnects long term absentees with a transition for re-entering the department. He added that it is part of CIRMA assessment for workmen's compensation package to address return to duty authorization process. He noted that after 18 mos. one long-term absence is schedule to return to work the end of June.

Employee Assistant Program

Chief McCarthy stated that this is a valuable service in terms of recognizing problems with drug or substance abuse or financial struggles and help identify assistance and expanding this to provide counseling services. He explained that the City is looking at replacing Public Safety Assistance with Behavioral Health as a possible replacement firm at a lower budget amount effective July 1.

Summer Interns

Chief McCarthy stated that they are again participating in the Mayor's Summer Youth program with two students scheduled to work on document conversion from paper to electronic files. He added that the program has been also providing positive mentorship and meaningful work experience.

ASSISTANT CHIEF REPORT

Assistant Chief Reilly reviewed the report of the notable incidents for April and highlighted the major house fires as noted:

04/12, 00:35, 39 Harbor Avenue, car vs. house. FD checked house for structural damage. A portion of the front porch was compromised and FD requested Building Inspector respond. House was posted temporarily unfit for occupancy and occupants relocated.

04/14, 18:12, Town of Fairfield. Norwalk firefighters dispatched to Fairfield as part of a Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team (FCHIRT). This was a Haz-Mat call for a person who committed suicide by ingesting poisonous gas.

04/21, 18:28, 60 William Street- structure fire. FD arrived to find an enclosed porch located on the side of the house fully involved. FD used two hose lines to extinguish the fire. Damage was confined to the porch.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Summary of Activities/Fire Reports/Fire Marshal Fees.

Fire Marshall Hansen noted that the reports as included in the packet summarized 358 units and total 298.97 hours, representing routine inspections. He added that the year to date track of fees collected is being tracked and will be reported to the Ordinance Committee with a fee analysis.

TRAINING REPORT

Deputy Captain Smith referred to the report as follows:

- Fire Officer 1 Certification Training completed
- Hazardous Material Operational Refresher Training - completed
- Firefighter Safety and Survival Training still in progress
- RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) Training paid with Grant Funds still in progress
- Annual Physical Exams -completed
- Fire Service Instructor 1 Class in planning stages with State of CT Fire Academy

There was discussion on a release for the use of a "demo" building to be used for a training site prior to demolition. Mayor Rilling noted that it should be sent on through the Corporation Counsel's office for legal review and processing.

Training- continued

Deputy Captain Smith noted that the Police Department was phenomenal with their quick response that saved the life of an individual that was in cardiac arrest and was brought back with the use of a defibulator. There was a review of the number of units and replacement requests for the next budget cycle.

Emergency Management

Ms. Deluca stated that the Texas A&M Training was very successful and all reports have rated it as exceptional. She noted that the first follow up meeting will be with the Police Department and Norwalk Hospital using the models learned prior to the Brien McMahon graduation.

Ms. Deluca reported that June 1 begins the Hurricane Season and the next training session will be on June 11 at 2:30 p.m. at the EOC to review emergency preparedness procedures.

UNION PRESIDENT REPORT - None

OLD BUSINESS/ NEW BUSINESS - None

PERSONNEL - No items

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services