

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 16, 2023**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling; Oscar Destruge

OTHER: Kirk McDonald, Fire Marshall; Tom Reich; Gino Gatto, Fire Chief; Mark Conte, Assistant Fire Chief; Tina Fogell; Jonathan Maggio, Deputy Fire Chief; Michele DeLuca, Emergency Management

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M. There was a quorum present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

Please make the following changes:

- Page 2, Budget Report, First Line: Change '59.2' to '69.2'.

**** COMMISSIONER DESTURGE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2023 AS AMENDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Gatto came forward to deliver his report.

BUDGET REPORT

Fire Chief Gatto said that they were doing better than expected regarding finance. They have moved some money from the salary account into other accounts. They are at 76.4% in all of the accounts and were expected to be at 83.3%.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION

Assistant Fire Chief Conte came forward to deliver his report.

ADASHI MOBILE DATA TERMINAL (MDT) AND COMMAND SOFTWARE UPGRADE

Assistant Fire Chief Conte reported that they had the modems installed in all the engines and were waiting on the contract currently.

STATION ALERTING SYSTEM UPGRADE

Assistant Fire Chief Conte reported that everything was in testing currently. They will likely be holding off for a month.

BUILDINGS

STATION 3 APPARATUS FLOOR

Assistant Fire Chief Conte reported that he had submitted the RFP. The Third Taxing District is granting them money to replace the whole floor. He has also submitted an RFP for a new engineer. The full grant will be \$400,000.00. for the full project.

STATION 5 ROOF REPLACEMENT

Assistant Fire Chief Conte reported that they are waiting on the new skylights and the project will be completed then.

OSHA COMPLIANCE

Assistant Fire Chief Conte reported that they were over 85% done with OSHA compliance. He provided further details for those present. They are on-track to finish before June 12th .

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

Fire Chief Gatto read the report for those present.

- A meeting was held to discuss design ideas for the department's new rescue truck. This apparatus will be designed to carry and deploy all of the specialized equipment that the department's sole rescue company is responsible for. The new truck will replace a 1993 rescue. They are trying to start this early instead of waiting till July. They have created a new committee to go over ideas for a new rescue truck.
- On May 24th, eight new probationary firefighters will begin one week of orientation training (having already graduated from the Connecticut Fire Academy). This week of training will prepare them for the firefighting methods and equipment utilized in Norwalk. They will be placed on shift starting the week of June 5th .
- The first sets of new turnout gear purchased to comply with OSHA's mandate for all protective equipment to be less than 10 years old, have been issued and placed on the line. The remaining sets of gear are due to be received by mid-June.
- There were 707 incidents, an average of 24 per day, in April. 28 fires, 60 rescues, 402 emergency medical responses, 16 service calls, 108 fire alarms, and 65 good-intent/smoke scare calls. They are at 2776 incidents from January 1st to April 30th . Total responses are 4,378 for this year.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Fire Marshall McDonald came forward to deliver his report. Fire Marshall McDonald provided a summary of activities for those present. He reviewed the increase in reports and said he felt disturbed when they did investigations and smoke alarms could have had a better outcome. There are programs for public education coming up this month. He reviewed the statistics of the reports for those present. He provided an update on their newest inspector.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ms. DeLuca came forward to deliver her report. She noted that June 1st was the start of the Atlantic Hurricane season and there is a program coming up to cover that. She reviewed the groups they were working with to prepare. She reviewed their current Summer Safety plans. They have been working on updating Fairfield Ave. She also requested input on exploring other options to Code Red due to increasing costs.

TRAINING DIVISION REPORT

Deputy Fire Chief Maggio came forward to deliver his report.

A. CURRENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Deputy Fire Chief Maggio reviewed the current ongoing training activities such as Pump and Driver training, Diver/Tiller training, Daily Injury Prevention Program, and General Marine Navigation.

B. COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

Deputy Fire Chief Maggio reviewed their completed activities such as Metal Cutting, Ground Ladder Deployment, Annual For-Duty Physicals, IT Training – Phishing, Metro North Rail Safety, Tactical Training with the Police Department, and Heavy Vehicle Lifting. He provided several photos of the roof prop for review. He reviewed what the roof prop would be used for including simulating fires at residential structures. Further discussion followed.

C. UPCOMING/SCHEDULED

Deputy Fire Chief Maggio reviewed the upcoming training including training with the Norwalk Police Academy, Forcible Entry training, Active Threat training, PES system training, Standpipes, Heavy Vehicle Stabilization, and Rope Rescue including modifying the tower.

CORRESPONDENCE

Fire Chief Gatto reviewed two resignation letters for those present. Four thank-you letters were read as well.

PERSONNEL

- ** MR. DESTRUGE MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting entered into Executive Session at 3:38 P.M.

The meeting returned to normal session at 3:52 P.M.

During Executive Session no motions were made and no votes were taken.

- ** MR. DESTRUGE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE DRUG PLAN REQUESTS BY DEPUTY CHIEF MAGGIO, EFFECTIVE JUNE 1ST .**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. DESTRUGE MOVED TO ADJOURN**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Ian A. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services