

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR HARRY W. RILLING
COMMISSIONER OSCAR DESTRUGE
COMMISSIONER CURTIS LANGLEY

REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 18, 2017

ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Oscar Destruge, Commissioner Curtis Langley

STAFF: Fire Chief Laurence Reilly, Assistant Fire Chief Gino Gatto,
Deputy Chief Al Bassett, Fire Marshal Broderick Sawyer

OTHERS: Raymond Burney, Personnel & Labor Relations Director

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Destruge called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

Regular Meeting March 21, 2017.

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED THE MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2017
AS CORRECTED.**

The following corrections were noted:

Page 2, under Fire Chief's Report, paragraph 2, line 1: please change the following from:
"Chief Reilly disturbed the Tri-Data" to "Chief Reilly distributed the Tri-Data"

Page 4, under Training Division Report, Section D, paragraph 3, line 11: please change
the following from "they will be being reading more up on it" to "they will be
reading more up on it"

**** THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2017 AS CORRECTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items to consider at this time.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT.

Chief Reilly introduced Mr. Burney, the new Director of Personnel and Labor Relations to the Commissioners and said that Mr. Burney was present to observe the meeting.

- **Budget.**

Chief Reilly stated that the Budget is in good shape. He said that there would be some transfers as the fiscal year ends, but felt that everything was fine.

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CHIEF'S REPORT AS PRESENTED.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ASSISTANT CHIEF REPORT

- **Operations Report.**

Chief Gatto reviewed the details of the various fire calls which averaged 16.96 calls per day for the month of March as listed in his written report.

- **Assistant Mechanics Position Update.**

Assistant Chief Gatto explained that currently there was only one full time mechanic and a part time mechanic. Due to a miscommunication regarding the qualifications for the open position, the posting will have to be redone.

- **New Engine Purchase**

An RFP has been released to replace one of the engine trucks in East Norwalk. He gave an overview of the details and said that it would take a few months before the process was completed.

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT AS PRESENTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

Fire Marshal Sawyer listed the number of inspections done and said that there was over \$3,000 generated in revenue. A discussion followed about the staffing in the Fire Marshal's office. Chief Reilly said that currently there was one open position in the department. He said that the department was working on making the job more attractive. Fire Marshal Sawyer said that Stamford, and Bridgeport have 11 Fire Marshals while Hartford has 12. Fire Marshal Sawyer said that it appeared to be the union negotiations. There had been four people in the department and then it went up to six.

Chief Reilly pointed out that Stamford and Bridgeport had larger populations. He suggested that the six positions be filled and then evaluating the situation. The Norwalk Firefighters historically have more vacancies in the ranks and that means more overtime is available. Discussion followed.

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT AS PRESENTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

Chief Reilly reported that Ms. DeLuca was attending a conference on hurricanes.

TRAINING REPORT.

- **Company Training Objectives – March/April**
 - **Saw Operations**
 - **Metal Cutting (Locks, Roll-Up Door Simulator)**
 - **Pitched Roof Operations**

Deputy Chief Bassett gave a brief overview of the type of training classes held for the firefighters including working on pitched roofs and dealing with metal locks and doors.

UNION PRESIDENT

There were no items to consider.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to consider.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Langley asked about the type of containment used to keep contaminated materials from becoming air borne. He said that he was wondering about this. Deputy Chief Bassett said that Station 2 had the highest standards. The denomination room has

washing machines that are able to remove contaminants and then the water goes into a filter and is encapsulated. There is also an oil and water separator. In Europe, they rely on respirators, which the Norwalk Fire Department also uses. Everything is supposed to stay on the apparatus floor and not come up to the living areas.

Commissioner Destruge asked how the first female firefighter was working out. Chief Reilly said that she fit right in with the crew without a problem.

Deputy Chief Bassett said that the Department is keeping careful records regarding the fires, the types of materials that burned and which firefighters were there. Commissioner Destruge asked if they could get a report on an individual firefighter and a list of the fires he had worked. Deputy Chief Bassett said that they could generate such a report if needed.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items to consider at this time.

PERSONNEL

There were no items to consider at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services