

**CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE COMMISSION
MARCH 2, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Carol Andreoli, Chair; Mayor Richard Moccia.

STAFF: Chief Denis McCarthy; Assistant Chief Lawrence Reilly; Deputy Chief Prescott; Michelle DeLuca, Emergency Management Deputy Chief.

OTHERS: Mr. & Mrs. Hardiman.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by the Chair.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 26, 2010

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS DISTRIBUTED.**

**** MRS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

09/10 BUDGET REPORT

Chief McCarthy said they are in good shape and don't expect to go over in any accounts. This budget requires that they be creative. There is a notable difference when funds become tight. It is difficult to do less over the entire year.

Mayor Moccia said that at last night's Board of Estimate & Taxation budget review, Mr. Hamilton was complimentary towards the police and fire regarding the fact that they were able to hold overtime down and stay within their budgets.

10/11 BUDGET REPORT

Chief McCarthy said that their budget review will take place next Wednesday. He spoke to Mayor Moccia last week about the training budget, which he will present at the budget review meeting. Mayor Moccia said they will provide flexibility within the budget. It is a tight budget year. Chief McCarthy said that some of the outreach programs in emergency management and fire prevention have, unfortunately, been lost. The open house and K-3 fire prevention programs will stay in. \$14,000 in local share for two fire prevention grants have been cut out and he will ask that this be restored. This will give \$80,000 back which will be offset by overtime expenses.

FIRE STATION PROJECT REPORT

Chief McCarthy said that he and Mr. Lo have worked on a time line to bring them through the design phase and demolition. There is \$1,600,000 approved in 2011. They will prepare an RFP for the architect and go out to bid by mid-April. They need good budget numbers for the Capital budget by December. They will also work on a relocation plan. In addition, three people will be sent to the Fire Station Design Conference in Kansas City.

ASSISTANT CHIEF REPORT

OPERATIONS REPORT

Assistant Chief Reilly said there was an apartment fire at 36 Fairfield Avenue on January 25th and a house fire at 6 Orange Street on January 30th. In addition, there was a fatal car accident on I-95 on January 8th.

In reference to equipment and buildings, Assistant Chief Reilly reviewed the following:

- A purchase order for a tractor-drawn aerial ladder was issued to KME Corporation of Nesquehoning, PA. Delivery of the truck is estimated to be in September 2010.
- The Department has been awarded a \$38,000 AFG grant to purchase cold water/ice rescue equipment and ice rescue training classes. Two new cold water rescue suits have already been purchased and put in service on Rescue 2, replacing suits that were approximately 15 years old.
- A new lease for the East Norwalk Firehouse has been negotiated by the Corporation Counsel's Office and the Third Taxing District. Yearly rental for the fire station will be \$38,000 annually for the next five years.
- 40 high visibility vests ANSI complaint safety vests have been purchased by the department. Federal regulations require that the vests be worn when operating at incidents on Federal highways.

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES/FIRE REPORTS

The Fire Marshal was not present. The reports were in the Commissioners' packets.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2010 PROGRAM CALENDAR

Ms. DeLuca reviewed the 2010 program calendar and noted the assistance given to Fire Commission
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families in various incidents.

TRAINING REPORT

RECRUIT TRAINING

Deputy Chief Prescott said the new recruits went to the Academy on February 8th and the reports are good. Last weekend and next weekend, they will be issued new gear. On February 17th, they concluded cold water rescue training from the state, paid for by a grant, at a cost of \$9,000. It was very good training. Sean McCabe from Cablevision came along and is doing a show dedicated to ice rescue training.

Deputy Chief Prescott said they received \$1,000 from Walmart in a grant for audio-visual at Broad River.

Mayor Moccia noted that if they did not have cold water rescue training they would be criticized.

Deputy Chief Prescott said that they used the Dolce Center and that they have been very good to the department.

Deputy Chief Prescott said they are still looking for information on the fire tower. Mayor Moccia said he would follow up. Chief McCarthy suggested that they invite Mr. Alvord or Gilbane to next month's meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

AWARDS CEREMONY

The Chairman and Mayor Moccia presented Mr. Hardiman with an award for pulling a woman and child out of a burning house on Ohio Avenue in December. Mr. Hardiman said there were a lot of heroes.

UNION PRESIDENT REPORT

The Union President was not present. There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PERSONNEL

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON**
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PERSONNEL ITEMS.
**** MRS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco
Telesco Secretarial Services