

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling; Commissioner Oscar Destruge; Commissioner Curtis Langley

STAFF: Fire Chief Laurence Reilly, Assistant Chief Gino Gatto; Deputy Chief A. Bassett; Deputy Fire Marshal Kirk McDonald; Michele DeLuca, Office of Emergency Management

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p. m. A quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

a. Regular Meeting January 17, 2017

Page 3 Change "installed 17n alarms" to "installed 17 smoke alarms"
Change "We have expanded..." to "Deputy Bassett reported that we have expanded"

**** COMMISSIONER LANGLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 17, 2017 MINUTES AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MAYOR RILLING.)**

ACTION ITEMS

There were no items.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Budget Report – Operating & Capital FY 2017-18

Chief Reilly stated that the budget is on course and there is nothing unusual that has come up. He stated that he would present a short presentation on the 2017-2018 budget. He stated the amount of the current revised budget amount, the Pro Forma received from the Department of Finance, and the amount requested by the Fire Department. He stated that there is about a \$69,000 difference between what was requested and what was recommended by the Department of Finance. Stated that 84% of the operating budget is for wages, including overtime and stipends, and another 11% is for other fixed costs such as utilities. He stated that there is a \$13,694 increase for the hydrant rental from the First District Water Department.

Chief Reilly stated that Items in the capital budget include replacement of breathing apparatus which have the ability to track fire fighters, renovations to buildings, replacement of the roof on the Fairfield Avenue building, and the purchase of two SUV response vehicles.

b. Assistant Mechanic Position Update

Chief Reilly stated that there have been about 30 people interested in the position and 4 individuals will be interviewed.

ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Operations Report

Assistant Chief Gatto stated that from January 1, 2017 to January 31, 2017 there were 481 calls (15.5 per day.) On January 1st, there was a car fire on the Southbound Merritt Parkway at Exit 38, high levels of CO at 1 Barbara Drive, and a structure fire at 17 Neilson Avenue. On January 13, there was a structure fire at 12 Douglas Drive. On January 15, there was a transformer fire on the Metro North Railroad tracks. On January 26, there was a motor vehicle accident with extrication. On January 27, there was a structure fire at 21 High Street. On January 29, there was a car fire on the southbound side of the Route 7 connector.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

a. Summary of Activities

b. Fire Reports

c. Fire Marshal Fees

Deputy Fire Marshal McDonald stated that there were a total of 344 activities in 574.25 hours. He stated there was \$1,655 in revenue for the month of January. He stated that they are doing as what they can with inspections with the current level of manpower. He reviewed the Smoke Alarm Installation Event Schedule for the event to be held on March 7, 2017.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

a. Emergency Management Update

Ms. DeLuca stated that text notifications to employees about delayed openings and closures of city hall are well received. She stated that the Public Safety Group will start working on continuity planning. Self-assessments will be given to departments soon.

TRAINING'S DIVISION REPORT

a. Monthly Training Objectives

Haz-Mat Operational

Building Construction

b. EMS Refreshers Completed

39 Members Passed EMT/EMR

c. Cancer Awareness

Firefighter Cancer Support Network
d. Annual Physicals Continuing
e. Pathways “Fire Rescue Academy”

Deputy Chief Bassett reviewed the Haz-Mat Operational training and the Building Construction training. He stated that the EMS refreshers have been completed and that 39 members passed EMT/EMR. He stated that annual physicals are being given now.

Deputy Chief Bassett stated that a cancer awareness and training classes will be held. He referenced a Miami-Dade County study showing higher rates of cancer in fire fighters vs the general population. He stated that testicular cancer and thyroid cancer are two types of cancer that had high rates among fire fighters. He stated that among retired fire fighters have higher rates of lung cancer, according to the study.

LOCAL 830 REPORT

There were no items.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

CORRESPONDENCE

Assistant Chief Gatto stated that a thank you letter from Dave Cole came through the Mayor’s Office on January 10, 2017. Mr. Cole stated that he took a tumble on his deck and four firefighters came to help him. They also followed up with him after the event. He expressed his heart-felt thanks for their help.

Assistant Chief Gatto stated that a letter came in from Jennifer Covello. She stated that she took part in the free fire inspections that were reported on in the Norwalk Hour. She stated that the program is invaluable and given her a sense of calm.

Assistant Chief Gatto stated that on Nancy Ellitser sent in a thank you letter on January 24, 2017. She stated that she was in a car accident while travelling southbound on I-95. She stated that the firefighters on the scene were extremely kind and looked after her well-being. They found out that she did not have anyone to give her a ride home so they offered to let her go to the firehouse. The firefighters also arranged for her to get a ride home.

PERSONNEL

There were no items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ** COMMISSIONER DESTRUGE MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The commission went into executive session at 3:35 p. m.

The commission came out of executive session at 4:06 PM. No motions were made and no votes were taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p. m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services