

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

ATTENDANCE: Carol Andreoli; Mayor Richard A. Moccia, Michael Coffey.

STAFF: Denis McCarthy, Fire Chief; Assistant Chief Lawrence Riley;
Glenn Iannaccone

OTHER: It is noted that members of a scout troop observed the meeting as part of Eagle Scout project.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Ms. Andreoli.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 15, 2013 MEETING

- ** MAYOR MOCCIA MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE
JANUARY 15, 2013 MEETING AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. COFFEY SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Action Items: Accept the Entry Level Firefighter Hiring List

Chief McCarthy provided a tentative list of candidates and stated that it was not final as Norwalk residency was not confirmed, but if the required proof is submitted and confirmed the list will be published. Mr. Coffey asked about the scores for oral evaluation, and Chief explained that it is based on how they presented themselves during the interview. He then explained that candidates that had not yet completed the CPAT and described how this exam is used as an assessment of physical ability. He added that there were a few names that could be available for hire if others do not pass the CPAT and he will advise the Commissioners by e-mail prior to September.

Chief McCarthy gave a brief overview of the total applicants and a summary of the minority breakdown that was provided. Mayor Moccia noted that the minority balance can only be equalized based upon the opportunity and not the result of actual applications and test results. Mr. Coffee complimented the department on the efforts to reach out to the community to provide the opportunity for fire fighter applicants. Chief McCarthy noted that \$55,000 was collected in fees versus costs of application processing and testing of \$60,000 which was only off by \$5,000 so they will make adjustments for the next testing.

- ** MAYOR MOCCIA MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE ENTRY LEVEL
FIREFIGHTER HIRING LIST AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. COFFEY SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief McCarthy stated that the budget reports in the packet were self explanatory and that they

are within the budget. He added that regarding 2013-14, he is working on a tough budget review as requested by the BET, and he has put in for restoration of hiring additional fire fighters.

Fire Station Project Report

Chief McCarthy stated that he is very pleased with the progress, and all is going well and on track with the budget and with timing. They have about \$400,000 remaining in the contingency after some adjustments, but they are on time and on budget. He added that Commissioners are invited to attend one of the bi-weekly meetings to review the status and updates on the project.

Assistant Chief Report

Assistant Chief Riley referred to the Operations Report of notable incidents for January and stated that the report was self explanatory and he highlighted the major incidents as follows:
NOTABLE INCIDENTS

01.21, 07:58, Rogers Square, EMS, unresponsive person. FD administered CPR and used AED on person in full cardiac arrest.

01.24, 06:50, Wilton Ave., EMS, person not breathing. FD administered CPR and assisted Paramedics on their arrival.

01.25, 08:26, 280 Silvermine Ave., public assistance. A large dog had fallen through outside "bilco" type doors into the basement and owner could not get dog out. FD borrowed a dog stretcher from a veterinarian and carried the dog outside.

01.25, 17:45, 47 Wall Street, MVA, car vs. building. FD assessed the driver and assisted EMS. No significant damage to building.

01.26, 03:04, 18 Belle Ave., outside fire. FD arrived to find a fence burning next to a single family home. While extinguishing the fire FD discovered that four dogs were being kept in the fence enclosure. The adult male dog escaped on his own while the female adult was removed by police officers and taken to a veterinary hospital. Their two pups died in the fire.

01.27, 09:35, Route 7 Connector, MVA. FD arrived to find a 1 car MVA on the bend of the entrance ramp to Route 15 south bound. The vehicle was sitting on its tires and had heavy front end damage with air bag deployment. FD personnel assisted Norwalk EMS with boarding and collaring the patient.

01.31, 04:35, 16 North Main St., gas leak. FD arrived to find an outside gas meter had been severed from its plumbing. FD stretched and charged a protective line, and approached the leak with a meter. Due to the windy conditions, the gas was quickly dissipating, and no readings were detected by the meter. FD shut the gas off stood by for Yankee Gas. to arrive.

Assistant Chief Riley stated that regarding equipment, that the Fire Department pumper committee is continuing to meet to draw up specifications for the new pumper to be purchased in this year's capital budget. He added that he is working with IT on the new monitoring system to display call activity and unit locations and addresses for tracking locator.

Fire Marshall's Report - Fire Marshall Iannaccone presented the report of a total of 209 units for over 200 hours, mostly were routine. He gave a summary of the incident on January 26 where a fire in a fence enclosure heated by a kerosene heater that resulted in the death of two puppies and serious burns to an adult dog. He reported that an additional \$3,632 in fees was

collected in January bringing the fiscal year-to-date total over \$37,000.

Emergency Management - Chief McCarthy stated that City Emergency Preparedness Committee has met to review best practices and not just intruders but all responses. He added that the committee is comprehensive and is comprised of building principals, from each school level and city officials including the Mayor and Chief of Police. He added that Col. Killackey from the Brien McMahon ROTC head up a Steering Committee that meets twice a month of the information on best practices, law enforcement, school assessments, and guidance for lock down drills and emergency response plans. He added that one of the actions taken is numbering all rooms and outside doors to ensure that locations can be easily identified and that first responders can readily locate doors.

Mayor Moccia noted that in the budget he is proposing three more police officers to be rotated through the middle and elementary schools to function as additional part-time School Resource Officers. He added that this has been a great job done by Chief McCarthy by spearheading this committee. He noted that there have been six consecutive disasters since 2010.

Recruit Training - No report.

Union President Report – There was no report.

Personnel - There was no Executive Session.

Other: Mayor Moccia stated that the contract for fire fighters has been settled with good negotiations and he hopes it sets the tone for other upcoming contracts.

He added that he will be attending the forum on gun safety and legislation in Danbury on Thursday, February 21 and Vice President Biden will be there.

Adjournment

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.**
**** MR. COFFEY SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Knox
Telesco Secretarial Services