

CITY OF NORWALK
FIRE DEPARTMENT

121 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06854



Tel: (203) 854-0200

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

121 CONNECTICUT AVENUE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2009
5:00P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Carol Andreoli, Chair; Mayor Richard A. Moccia

STAFF: Fire Chief Denis McCarthy; Deputy Chief Prescott;
Fire Marshal Glenn Iannaccone, Michelle DeLuca,
Deputy Director of Emergency Management

PERSONNEL

a. Swearing-In – LT. Christopher Riccio

The Fire Commissioners, Chief McCarthy, Deputy Chief Prescott, Fire Marshal Glenn Iannaccone and Ms. DeLuca attended the swearing in ceremony of Lt. Christopher Riccio. Following the conclusion of the ceremony, the Fire Commissioners commenced their meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Andreoli called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Jul 21, 2009

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2009 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ACTION ITEMS

Certify: Deputy Chief Promotional list

Chief McCarthy said that Deputy Chief Prescott worked very hard on the promotional exam

process. For entry level, there were originally over 900 candidates. Mayor Moccia said that the list was expanded in order to compensate for possible drop offs later in the process. Chief McCarthy said that the final candidate selection number was the top fifty plus ties. Nine candidates dropped out. Mayor Moccia said that he believe it was a fair and equitable process

**** MAYOR MOCCIA THEN MOVED TO CERTIFY THE FOLLOWING PROMOTIONAL ELIGIBILITY LIST FOR THE RANK OF DEPUTY CHIEF FOR APPROVAL, WHICH SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS AFTER THE DATE OF WHICH IT WAS PUBLISHED; THE PUBLICATION DATE BEING SEPTEMBER 7, 2009:**

- 1. GINO GATTO**
- 2. CHRISTOPHER KING**
- 3. TODD SMITH**
- 4. WARD HOPE**

**** MS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Entry level Firefighter list

Chief McCarthy then reviewed the results of the Entry Level Firefighter Exam with the Commissioners.

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR INCLUSION ON THE LIST FOR ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTERS AS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2009.**

**** MS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chief McCarthy explained that the names on the list in the past were valid for two years with an extension for a third year. He suggested that since the entry level test cost \$45,000 that in another two or three year period, the list be terminated and starting the testing process from the beginning.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

09/10 Budget Report

Chief McCarthy said that this coming year would be a difficult year because the department was held to last year's budget amounts. Currently, the secretarial position is vacant and will need to be filled by an Admin Support 1 or possibly Admin Support 2 candidate. The Mayor said that he was waiting until more figures were available from the Tax Collector, but both tax revenues and State Aids funds have dropped dramatically. The Mayor said that he believed that it would be more difficult next year from a budgetary point of view.

Chief McCarthy said that the meeting on the training tower was good and a strong case was made for maintaining the training tower on South Smith Street. He said that the Department had

given up 3/4ths of an acre and retaining the last 1/4th of an acre for the tower was reasonable.

ASSISTANT CHIEF REPORT

Operations Report

Assistant Fire Chief Reilly was not present, so Chief McCarthy reported that there was one fire at a beauty salon on Belden Avenue. He added that regarding a recent fire that was reported on Grant Street that Ms. DeLuca had continued to collect donations for families displaced by fires. Renters who have no renters insurance can be left homeless and the landlord was frequently not in a position to help. Mayor Moccia suggested that perhaps the Fair Rent or the Human Relations Commission might be willing to do some advocacy for the renters and raise the awareness of the general public regarding this.

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Summary of Activities

Mayor Moccia said that he was trying to get Hartford to authorize a Land Use docket to expedite the various cases. He felt that this might help the Fire Marshal's Office because the Marshals often find issues like blight or other conditions that would be addressed in this type of court.

Fire Reports

Fire Marshal Iannaccone said that the only fire had been covered earlier in the report.

Open House

Fire Marshal Iannaccone said that the open house was on the 3rd from 10-3. Fire Marshal Iannaccone reviewed some of the events that would be held at the Open House.

Chief McCarthy informed the Commissioners that the grievance challenge for the inspector is moving forward to the State level.

Fire Marshal Iannaccone left the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Volunteer Recruitment

Ms. DeLuca reported that the first training was done in early August and there would be another one on the 16th. She then handed out color brochures that were distributed to the public about the training.

Preparedness Month

Preparedness Month is underway and disaster kits were passed out to City employees today at City Hall.

TRAINING REPORT

Promotional Exams Update

Entry level testing

Deputy Chief Prescott distributed copies of his report and then reviewed the recent training events that the Department had held during the month with the Board. He informed the Commissioners that the Firefighters have been receiving training in dealing with hybrid cars involved in accidents or fires and also with the solar panels recently installed on a building on Washington Street.

Deputy Chief Prescott explained that there would be a practice boom deployment in conjunction with Manresa Island staff in the near future.

UNION PRESIDENT REPORT

There were no items to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. ANDREOLI SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services