

MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 26, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners Riccio, Clem and Fox. Commissioners Ahern and LaCroix were absent. Also present was Chief Mahoney.

Motion made by Commissioner Fox to approve the meeting minutes of February 24, 2022, April 6, 2022 (special), June 14, 2022 (special), August 16, 2022 (special) and October 27, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Personnel – Commissioner Massey reported that the three new recruits are on shift and doing well. The Yale Center for Emergency Medical recognized Jeff Larsen, Tyler Mahoney, Michael Olejarczyk and Thomas Wrede for their extraordinary work on a recent medical emergency call. 2022 has been the department's busiest year ever resulting in response to 6,413 incidents. He commended the personnel for their efforts. Chief Mahoney also commented that out of all those calls there was not one complaint only good reports.

Finance – Commissioner Riccio reported that inflation has impacted all accounts. There are 3 firefighters out on long term injury leave. This will eventually effect the overtime and sick accounts. The proposed budget has been completed and being entered into the new budgeting software program. The Chief will provide budget sheets to the board to review for the next meeting.

Training – Commissioner Clem reported that probationary firefighters Wrede, Hayes, and Filo have graduated from the CT Fire Academy Recruit Class. Firefighters Canny and Ghiroli III were signed off as Operators for Engine 1 and Engine 7. Day 1 of paramedic continuing medical education was completed under the direction of Assistant Drill Master Lizee. Chief Mahoney acknowledged Lizee and team for doing a phenomenal job with training. Deputy Chief Judd is conducting training with a HydraFusion Strut kit with each shift utilizing vehicles donated by United Towing. A public CPR Class was held last week an additional class will be held in February.

Apparatus – Commissioner Massey stated that Dante continues to do a great job and saved the department a lot of money.

EMS – Commissioner Fox reported that year to date ambulance revenues are \$1,337,596, it is anticipated that we will hit the revenue target before the end of April. There were 2,939 EMS incidents from July 1, 2022 - January 25, 2023 resulting in 2,296 transports to area hospitals. The department is hosting Community CPR classes with the goal of improving cardiac arrest survival rates.

Buildings – Commissioner Massey reported that the second floor work at Station 9 is almost complete. There is currently no funding, additional items still needed include a commercial cooking hood, counters and appliances. The electric vehicle charging stations at FDHQ have been installed but are still not active. The radiant floor heat at FDHQ are not working properly, GGB is working on a solution.

Pension & Communications – Commissioner Clem stated that all reports are in. A meeting is scheduled next week with Jim Finch.

Chief's Report – Chief Mahoney reported that the department continues to be very busy, averaging 1.5 calls per day more than the previous year. The calls frequently occur in groups leaving the department to rely on volunteers. Despite volunteer recruitment efforts, there is currently only 27 fully certified volunteers divided amongst 4 district firehouses, leaving us with an unreliable response. They are working on a long term plan to address the staffing issues. The department sent an Engine Company with four personnel to cover the North Haven Ridge Rd. station during the wake for fallen firefighter Matthias Wirtz. The commission offered their condolences to all.

Old Business – none

New Business – Request from Company 2 to attend the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Motion made by Commissioner Fox to grant permission for Company 2 to attend the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Clem to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk