

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 24, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners LaCroix, and Clem; Commissioners Fox and Ahern participated by phone. Also present were Chief Mahoney; Assistant Chief Bloomquist and Deputy Chief Cudgma.

Motion made by Commissioner Clem to approve the minutes from January 18, 2022 (special meeting), November 18, 2021, October 26, 2021 (special meeting) and August 18, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Fox to approve the 2022-2023 budget in the amount of \$7,041,000. Seconded by Commissioner Clem contingent upon adjustments by the Finance Department. Vote unanimous.

Personnel – Commissioner Massey reported that there are currently two full time FF/Paramedic vacancies and six part time EMT's and 1 part time Paramedic have been hired.

Training – Commissioner Clem reported that the following training has occurred: Advanced Cardiac Life Support refreshers and Low Angle Rescue. Volunteer training resumed on February 1 after being suspended due to COVID. Chief Officers, Captains and acting Captains will participant in ICS 300 training next month.

Apparatus – Commissioner LaCroix reported that preventative maintenance is always ongoing. The new ambulance is enroute from North Carolina and will be brought to Eastford for fit, finish and minor details. It should be here in two weeks.

EMS – Chief Mahoney reported that ambulance revenue is \$1,152,541. There have been 3,075 EMS incidents from July 1, 2021 to November 16, 2021 resulting in 2,370 transports to area hospitals. 77% transport to 17% non-transport. Call volume has returned to pre-COVID levels.

Buildings – Discussion took place concerning Fire Headquarters now that it is 10 years old. Chief Mahoney stated that there is a new vendor in place and they seem to have a handle on the water to water heat pump that they had issues with in the past. He does have a concern about the Glycol, to ensure that it's at the proper consistency and up to date. He doesn't feel like he's received a good answer on the proper maintenance of the system. Public Work will be removing the fallen tree that fell on the fence from the back corner of the property.

Pension & Communications – Commissioner Clem waiting on the reports from the volunteer companies.

Chief's Report – Chief Mahoney thanked the command staff members for all of their assistance. He reported that the department has responded to 4,107 calls for services from July 1, 2021 to February 23, 2022 averaging 17.25 Calls per day. Friday is the busiest day and 11:00 a.m. the busiest hour. The Exit 56 radio site configuration and testing will begin next week and is should be operational by April. They are currently replacing the "Firehouse" software with "First Due". They felt this product best meets their needs. It has a unique pre-plan feature that is accessible on any device in the field to provide critical building information during emergencies. It also has a feature called community connect, that allows residents to create a completely secure Household Life Safety Profile.

Assistant Chief's Report – Assistant Chief Bloomquist reported that two full time Firefighter Paramedic have been hired.

The incentive plan for the part time EMS workers will be presented to the Board of Finance next Monday. If approved, it will be implemented as of April 1, 2022. ADM-EMS Lizee and DC Cudgma are currently overseeing the orientation process for the new 6 part time EMT's and 1 part time Paramedic. This should help in filling the Medic 3 shifts, 16.5 % have gone unfilled since December 1, 2021 – at one point it was up between 20 and 30%. They are continuing to work on updated several guidelines and procedures with regard to dispatching.

Motion made by Commissioner Clem to approve a request from M.P. Rice Hose Company No. 2 to participate in the Greater New Haven Saint Patrick's Day Parade on March 13, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Clem to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Ahern. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk