

## MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 22, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.  
Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners LaCroix, Ahern and Fox. Commissioners Clem were absent. Also present was Chief Mahoney and Assistant Chief Brian Koczak.

Motion made by Commissioner Riccio to approve the meeting minutes of May 25, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

Personnel – Commissioner Massey reported that three firefighters that were out on long term injury leave, one firefighter has returned to light duty and two remain out on long term leave. A part time EMT position for Medic 3 has been posted.

Finance – Commissioner Riccio reported that there are no transfers at this time. Some accounts are going to be affected by the firefighters that have been out on long term leave and transfers will be required to balance out some accounts.

Training – No report. The commission extended its appreciation to the Public Works, Parks and Recreation and Engineering departments for their assistance with building a trench for the department to conduct Trench rescue training and certification.

Apparatus – Commissioner LaCroix reported that Engine 1 and Engine 2 received new brakes and tires and are back in service. Marine 2 and Marine 5 had new LED Deck Lights installed.

EMS – Commissioner Fox reported that from July 1 to June 2, 2023 there have been 5,062 EMS incidents. YTD ambulance revenue is exceeded the annual estimated revenue by \$500,000. This year it is anticipated to be over \$2.2 million.

Buildings – Commissioner Ahern reported that metal parts in front of Headquarters has been completed by GGB. Shelly Bros. is working on a plaque for Station 9. The Board of Selectmen has voted to recommend that the Acorn Road property is earmarked for a fire station to the RTM.

Pensions and Communications – no report.

Chief's Report – The Chief reported that the department has responded to 6,563 calls for service averaging 18.4 calls per day. The department received the Care Hallmark Award from the American Red Cross. The final draft of the Staffing Plan has been finalized. The Fire Marshal has been very busy with the Festival and on-going construction projects.

Assistant Chief's Report – The Assistant Chief presented the final Staffing Plan to the commission and provided additional details of the plan. Chief Mahoney provided additional information concerning the types of calls and how staff needs to be pulled from various assignments to provide appropriate coverage as necessary. The staffing plan identifies the problems that the department has been facing including: a decline in the number of volunteers, increase for calls for service, increase in development growth and inequity of service due to response time. An increase in hospital diversions are also creating a longer time period that the ambulances are transporting. The plan provided two staffing options: Staffing option 1 – Firefighter/Paramedic Model and Staffing option 2 – EMS Division Model. The Chief and Assistant Chief recommends the EMS model, this model provides more coverage with less cost. Motion made by Commissioner Fox to approve the Staffing Plan and recommend the approval of the Option 2 - EMS Division model. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous. Chief Mahoney mentioned that he will work with Chairman Massey to move this plan forward to seek approval of the plan and the necessary appropriations by the Board of Finance and RTM.

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Motion made by Commissioner Riccio to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk