

## MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

October 27, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners LaCroix, Riccio, Clem and Fox. Commissioner Ahern was absent. Also present were Chief Mahoney; and three candidates for the position of full time Assistant Fire Chief.

Motion made by Commissioner Fox to enter into executive session at 5:03 p.m. to interview three candidates for the full time Assistant Chief position. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Return to regular session at 7:03 p.m.

For the record no votes were taken while in executive session.

Present in executive session were: Commissioners Massey, LaCroix, Riccio, Clem and Fox. Also present were: Chief Mahoney, Fire Chief; Margaret Lubberda, Director, Human Resources and candidates Robert Dobuzinsky, Brian Kozack and Daniel Wassmer during their respective interviews.

Training – Commissioner Clem reported that training had taken place at the Branford Yacht Club and it went well and was quite impressive.

Apparatus – Commissioner LaCroix reported that the new electronics package for Marine 1 was finished by L&L Electronics. The outrigger on Truck 1 has a crack. Fortunately, the repair will be covered under warranty (the estimated cost for the repair is between \$60,000 and \$70,000)

The new engine 1 bids were received after careful review it was determined that there were approximately 40 items identified in the low bid response that did not meet the bid spec. The Board of Selectmen met earlier today and unanimously voted to reject the low noncompliant bid and award the contract for the purchase of a Pierce Impel Custom Rescue Pumper to Firematic Supply Company for a total price not to exceed \$899,000. Motion made by Commissioner LaCroix to approve the purchase of a Pierce Impel Custom Rescue Pumper to Firematic Supply Company for a total price not to exceed \$899,000. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

EMS – Commissioner Fox reported that year to date ambulance revenues are \$746,270. The units have been extremely busy. The department will be partnering with Yale to provide community based CPR classes.

Buildings – Chief Mahoney provided a brief overview of buildings. They are looking at pricing to complete a build out of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at Station 9. EV Charging stations are being installed at Fire Headquarters. Reconstruction of the Stony Creek Co 5 Parking Lot is underway, including paving, stripping and signage.

Pension & Communications – Commissioner Clem stated that there was no report this month but expressed concern with the decrease in volunteers that there will be less qualified pension candidates at the end of the year.

Chief's Report – Chief Mahoney reported that the department is responding to an average of 18.5 calls per day. He also advised the public to use caution when using candles, incense or similar open flame products. Never leave these types of products unattended. It is always best to use battery operated flameless candles. Station 9 has been temporary staffed with career personnel during the RFT 146 bridge closure. The residents in the area were appreciative that they were there. He extended his appreciation to the Branford Yacht Club for the use of their building prior to demolition for training.

Old Business – The Chief reported that they are still monitoring volunteer staffing issues. Company 4 currently only has 5 certified members, they need a minimum of 12. He met with the company and they will try to get the word out to boost membership. The department has an automatic mutual aid agreement with East Haven to help bridge the gap.

Motion made by Commissioner Massey to add executive session personnel matter to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Massey to enter executive session at 7:24 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Present in executive session were: Commissioners Massey, LaCroix, Riccio, Clem and Fox. Also present were: Chief Mahoney, Fire Chief and Margaret Lubberda, Director, Human Resources.

New Business – Motion made by Commissioner Fox to extend a conditional offer of employment to Brian Kozack as full time Assistant Fire Chief. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

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Motion made by Commissioner Clem to appoint The Reverend Bill Keane as Fire Department Chaplin. Seconded by Commissioner Fox. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Fox to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Clem. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk