

MINUTES OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
November 16, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.  
Fire Department Headquarters

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. Present were Chairman Robert Massey, Jr., Commissioners Ahern, LaCroix and Riccio. Commissioners Clem and Fox were absent. Also present was Chief Mahoney and Assistant Chief Brian Koczak.

Motion made by Commissioner Riccio to approve the meeting minutes of August 24, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Ahern. Vote unanimous.

Personnel – Commissioner Massey reported that there are two firefighters out on long term sick/injury leave. 11 new EMT's are in the process of on-boarding, three have been cleared to work on their own.

Finance – Commissioner Riccio reported that there are no transfers this month.

Training – Chief Mahoney reported that the first two Vehicle and Machinery Rescue classes are on-going and funded by the \$422,000 +/- FEMA grant. All classes are on-going over 2 fiscal years.

Apparatus – Commissioner LaCroix reported the all the DOT/Pump Inspections are in process. The list of maintenance that is being done is quite large.

EMS – Commissioner Massey reported that the YTD ambulance revenue is just under a million at \$935,430.70 from July 1 to November 16. The transport to non-transport ratio is 71% transport to 14% non-transport.

A brief discussion took place concerning vehicle usage and the increase cost and delivery delays for new apparatus and replacement parts. The department may have to request to accelerate purchasing process for equipment to avoid delivery delays.

Buildings – Chief Mahoney extended his appreciation to the Stony Creek Quarry, Shelly Brothers and everyone's contributions in getting the Station 9 dedication plaque completed.

Commissioner Massey addressed a voicemail message that was received by the department over the weekend concerning trees next to Station 9. The complainant referred to the department as selfish and stupid. When in fact the trees were not cut down by the department or the town. The trees in question were on private property and the tree warden advised the property owner to have them evaluated by a tree expert or arborist due to limbs falling. The property owner opted to have the trees cut down. It had nothing to do with the department.

Pensions and Communications – no report.

Chief's Report – Chief Mahoney reported that there have been 2,616 calls for service from July 1 to November 16, 2023, averaging 18.8 calls per day. On September 20, 2023 there was a major fire on Totoket Road requiring all hands was extinguished and under control within twenty minutes. Several motor vehicle accidents requiring extrication were handled during this period. A car struck a building causing a gas leak requiring evacuation prior to shutting down the gas. Several new RTM members have reached out with concerns about the staffing at Short Beach Co 4. Fire Prevention and education was conducted town with throughout the month of October. Small Boat and Rescue Swimmer Training was completed a big thank you to Sony Creek Co 5 member Heather Adams for her time and expertise to complete the training.

Assistant Chief's report – Assistant Chief Koczak reported that firefighter Hart and Gionteris have stepped up since firefighter Ghiroli retired to assist with the apparatus and marine units. The department invited OSHA to conduct a consultation visit. They will conduct multiple visits over the year. As a follow up to the most recent visit an Organizational Statement was developed for review and approval by the commission.

Motion made by Commissioner Ahern to add the approval of Policy 23-003 Organizational Statement to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner LaCroix to add the approval of the Annual Report to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Riccio. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Ahern to approve Policy 23-003 Organizational Statement. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Ahern to approve the Annual Report. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Chief Mahoney is planning to meet with a local vendor concerning improving the outdoor security camera system.

Motion made by Commissioner Ahern to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner LaCroix. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk