

Board of Fire Commissioners

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2019

Present: Commissioner Charles Longo
Commissioner John Cafazzo
Commissioner Richard Quagliaroli
Commissioner James Dutton
Commissioner Arnold Higgins
Commissioner Gilbert Spencer

Absent: Chief Michael P. Thurz

Commissioner Longo called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Longo asked that a motion be made to approve the minutes from the September meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Higgins and seconded by Commissioner Spencer. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: None

Chief's Report: Presented by Assistant Chief David Thurz due to Chief Thurz absence for a work related meeting.

- Apparatus pump testing will take place on October 7th and 8th.
- First installment of 2019-2020 Unit payment will be processed in October, once the Captains have confirmed that all incident and training reports have been input into the system.
- An editorial from the Meriden Record Journal entitled "Is volunteer firefighting on its way out?" was provided to each of the commissioners. The editorial addressed the decline in volunteer firefighters.
- Annual department meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 4th, 7 PM at the Riverfront Community Center. The commissioners are invited to attend.
- Annual inspection of the department's self-contained breathing apparatus was completed by Shipman Fire Equipment.
- Fire Prevention Week begins the week of October 6th. Station 2 will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. There are also scheduled visits to the various pre-schools and elementary schools during the month.
- Facilities will be rekeying Stations 1 and 2 in the coming weeks. The goal is to limit the number of keys issued and converting to a key fob system. The keys that will be issued to certain members will have an associated serial number. Fob access to the training room will be provided to the members, similar to what was installed at Station 2.

- Review of Department's monthly expenditures.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business:

Fire Station renovation updates:

- Facilities has recommended that the north and west facing elevations at Station 2 be re-shingled. As part of the project, any unsuitable sheathing will be replaced. Commission members inquired why the entire roof was not being considered for replacement.
- Purchase order for the renovation work to Station 2's men's room has been issued. The contractor anticipates mobilizing towards the end of October or early November.
- A proposal for the renovation work to Station 1's men's and women's room is anticipated within the coming weeks.
- Cabinets have been ordered for Station 1's kitchen by Facilities. There is no installation date scheduled at this time.
- A meeting with an architect still needs to be established with respect to the proposed building upgrades and improvements to Stations 3 and 4.
- Glastonbury Partners in Planting (GPIP) is working on a grant to make improvements to Station 1's landscaping facing Main Street. Chief Thurz needs to review the proposal with Parks and Recreation.
- Commissioner Longo inquired as to the status of the proposed improvement at the training facility. Assistant Chief Thurz reported that the scout is working on price quotes and creating a materials list for the project.
- Commissioner Spencer reminded the other commissioners of the Firefighter of the Year dinner on October 3, 2019 and the importance of the Commissioners attendance.
- Commissioner Longo inquired about the cost to repair Ladder 31. Assistant Chief Thurz advised that the invoice has not been forwarded to the Chief's office as of yet.

New Fire Engine update:

- Cab and chassis is still at the Spartan factory in Michigan. The latest update is that the factory is waiting on some additional parts before it is shipped to the Marion factory in Wisconsin. Assistant Chief Thurz feels that this will delay delivery. Copies of the cab and chassis photos were shared with the Commission.

New Boat Update:

- The boat remains on schedule with an anticipated delivery around the third week of October. Chief Thurz is providing the members with weekly updates as to the progress along with photos.

New Business:

- The initial meeting of a Strategic Planning Committee will be held on October 16, 2019. Commissioners Quagliaroli and Spencer will represent the Fire Commission.

Correspondences:

- None

Next Regular Meeting: November 7, 2019 at Company 1, 2825 Main Street, 6:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Commissioner Dutton made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Longo, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Deborah Torres
Recording Secretary

c: Fire Commission (6)
Fire Chiefs (4)
Fire Captains (4)
Richard J. Johnson, Town Manager
Chris Siwy, Fire Marshal
Mary Visone, Purchasing Agent
Robert DiBella, Civil Preparedness