

FAIRFIELD FIRE COMMISSION MEETING

April 12th 2012, 7:00pm

Independence Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room

725 Old Post Rd Fairfield CT 06824

1. CALL TO ORDER: at 7:00pm by Chairman Charlene Lebo

Members Present: Commissioners: Susan Barrett, Felix Giannini, Craig van Steenberg, Richard Popilowski, Patrick McCabe and Thomas Christie

Also Present: Fire Chief Richard Felner: D.C. Art Reid

Town Attorney: Stanton Lesser.

Selectman: James Walsh.

Director Human Resources: Mary Carroll Mirylees

First Selectman Michael Tetreau

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

3. Moment of Reflection: For all Firefighters.

4. Approval of Minutes: Susan Barrett motioned, seconded by Richard Popilowski to approve the 3/8/2012 minutes with correction of spelling of Marshal. Motion carried. Richard Popilowski motioned, seconded by Susan Barrett to approve the 3/22/2012 Special Meeting minutes with correction the following to read: no motions were made, and no votes were taken, and to add the following under New Business:

b) Discuss Personnel contract: Public session resumed after contract discussions with Deputy Reid @ 9.25pm. No motions were made and no votes were taken. Deputy Chief Reid agreed to wave his rights under his current contract that would require the Board of Fire Commissioners to act on his contract tonight to meet the notification requirements of the contract. Deputy Chief Reid will be out of town at a conference and on vacation prior to the deadline date for the Board of Fire Commissioners to act. By waving the deadline date, the Board of Fire Commissioners can act on Deputy Chief Reid's contract at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission, April 12, 2012. Motion carried.

5. Old Business:

a) Correspondence:

Chief Felner reported that they have received several thank you letters (on file)

b) Chief's Reports

Chief Felner went over the Fire Marshal, Training Center Incident calls and Monthly unit responses reports in great detail with the Commission.

Director of Human Resources Mary Carroll came forward and updated the commission on the Sexual Harassment and work place violence policies and procedures for the Fire Dept. EAP. who conducted the training, will be coming back in the fall for any people who were unable to complete training. Mary Carroll gave copies of the Policies and Procedures to the commission.

Chief Felner was presented with a Plaque by Christine Liba on behalf of PETA, for rescuing pets. Christine did thank the Fire Dept for all their help which is appreciated.

c) Update Local 1426: No report. Safety trailer will be out April 13/14th Children from the school will train some of the kids.

d) Southport Volunteer updates: Annual Memorial Day Picnic and Fire Commission are all welcome to attend.

6. New Business. No report.

Under item a. Discuss Personal Contract

A motion was made by Commissioner McCabe seconded by Commissioner Giannini to add to the agenda a request from our Town Attorney Stanton Lesser to inform the commissioners of p/f attorney/client privileged information that may be relevant to our discussions. Motion passed 4 Yeas and 1 Nays. Abstentions: 2. Public Session resumed at 9p.m. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett seconded by Commissioner Popilowski at 9:13pm to go back into Private Executive Session. Motion passed. Public session resumed at 9:30pm. No motions were made, and no votes were taken. A motion was made by Commissioner Popilowski seconded by Commissioner Christie to go back into Private Executive Session. Motion passed.

Public session resumed at 9:55pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Giannini to extend Deputy Chief Reid's Contract for two years. The contract will then end, December 2014. After further discussion by the Commissioners, Commission Barrett amended the motion seconded by Commissioner Popilowski to extend Deputy Chief Reid's contract for 18 months to have the contract end in July, 2014. This would coincide with our Chief's contract. The vote on the amendment failed 4 Nays, 3 Yeas. The main motion that extends the contract for the Deputy Chief for two years was voted upon. The motion was passed Yeas 5 Nays 2. A motion was made by Commissioner Christie, seconded by Commissioner Van Steenberg to adjourn. Motion passed.

Being no further business meeting adjourned at 10:02p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jude Fitzgerald

Recording Secretary