

A Regular Meeting of the Fairfield Fire Commission was held on

**Thursday August 9, 2018 @ 7 pm Fairfield Regional Fire School,
Conference Room 205 Richard White Way (formerly 205 One Rod
Hwy) Fairfield, CT 06824**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Joseph Olzacki @ 7:00pm

Members Present: Commissioners: Dorothea Brennan, John Brannelly,
Craig Van Steenberg and Harry Ackley.

Also Present: Chief McCarthy: D.C. Dunn

Absent: Commissioners Bill Fitzpatrick and Barbara Rifkin.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of May 10th, 2018 Meeting Minutes-

Commissioner Brennan motioned, seconded by Commissioner Brannelly to approve the 05/10/2018 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried with 1 abstention Commissioner Van Steenberg.

3. Chief's Monthly Report- Firefighter Safety

June is National Fire Safety Month and Safety Stand Down

Chief gave a brief update on the PR Fitness Training program under direction of Assistant Chief Gomola which is a program funded by FEMA. Swim training continues; need to improve confidence in the water. Hope to do it again next year if Fairfield U can give pool time again. All good reports coming from this program from all involved.

a) Administration- Closed out FY 18. Finance reconciling all accounts.

b) Maintenance- Work completed on Ladder truck. Boat was serviced and worked within budget. New ladder truck specs are being built and a lot of participation from all the Fire Fighters.

c) Donations- \$500 Fairfield Half Marathon, \$50 Wallischeck

Commissioner Brennan motioned, seconded by Commissioner Brannelly to approve the 2 donations as presented. Motion carried.

d) Regional Fire School Operation Costs and Income-

4. Deputy Chief's Operations Reports-

We are presently processing Candidate 1 and as soon as we have the name, Candidate 2 for the Fire Academy.

- Promotion of Asst. Chief and Lieutenant due to retirement of FM Kessler
- Sending new AC and an LT to Fire Code Inspector and Fire Investigator School.
- We had Professional development profiles produced for Lt. Calandriello and Act. LT Cox

Nursing Home Drills: Regal Care of Southport and Ludlowe Center for Health and Rehab

Analyzing Cell Phone Carriers for Cell and Data speeds

- Half Marathon. Went well
- Fireworks planning / Event worked out well. Lighting borrowed and set up. Difficulties since we were competing with Westport for equipment.
- Harbor Safety Drill June 2018 received thanks from their manager.

Ordered new Car 3 vehicle. November delivery. Then have to get buildout and equipment. We are preparing for Capital request for a replacement Ladder Truck this cycle.

- Met with DPW Scott Bartlett. Re: improving the looks of landscaping from vendors
- Station 3 got some attention this week. Tree removed, landscaping.
- Station 5 and 2 to get some work too

- Station 5 Roof: Pre bid for Roof Replacement took place yesterday.
- Soliciting bids for fixing facade of Station 1. Aluminum is dented and poor looking.
- Stop the bleed Class for Town hall employees at TG. 50 town employees in class.
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Received partial payment for work performed.
- End of Year- finishing – will have report next meeting.
- EPPI (Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative) Drill June 20. Went off well. Since drill had a cyber-attack component, we had I.T. Director David Kelley speak to Agency heads/ reps.

5. Southport VFD Update- No report

6. Stratfield VFD Update- No report

7. Local 1426 Update – No report but Chief did mention working with union in bringing back retired Bill Kessler to help out as at the moment a lot of work staffing problems.

8. CERT (community Emergency Response Team) Update-

Norma went over the previous events that Cert participated in and all a great success including the Memorial Day Parade. Upcoming events: DEMHS Mass Care Trailer and CERT Trailer inventory- August 11th. Shelter Operations Review: CERT meeting- August 16th. Fairfield HazMat Collection Day – Traffic Assistance – August 21st

Annual Meeting Sept 20th: Guest Speaker; Detective Beth Irizarry FDP-De-escalation Techniques.

Norma gave recognition to Commissioner Ackley in reference to CERT. He was instrumental in starting CERT in Fairfield and taught the first class in 2007

9. Old Business-

a) Entry Test and Hiring of New Fire Fighters

Will be discuss in Executive Session.

- b) Nichols Street Closure/Parking- Plan in progress. Operation Hope is due to close. No negative response so far regarding closing the street which will allow additional parking.
- c) Combined Dispatch and Move Update- Chief reported study should be complete by Oct and present at November meeting.

10. New Business-

a) Vacation Carryover Approval

Chief and D.C requested to carry over 5 unused vacation days from FY 18. Chair Joe motioned, seconded by Harry to approve the carryover. Motion carried.

b) Injury Update- All long term injury are back to work. June injury hoping to be back soon. Chair Joe requested that the commission to be notified of any injury, deaths etc. that occur. Chief will definitely do this.

c) Approval to fill vacancies from the promulgated Lieutenant's list of March 21, 2017 through September 21, 2018 and the Assistant Chief's list of March 19, 2017 through September 19, 2018.

Commissioner Brennan motioned, seconded by Commissioner Ackley to approve to fill the vacancies from the promulgated Lieutenants list of March 21st, 2017 through Sept 21st 2018 and the Assistant Chief's list of March 19th 2017 through Sept 19th 2018. Motion carried.

Chief did mention that Lt Higgins will be promoted to Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal and FF David Cox to Lt.

Commissioner Brennan did ask about new tests since the lists are about to expire. Chief explained not anticipating any retirements and if there are they can go in as acting per their contract. Chief is also working with the union regarding taking tests.

11. Private Executive Session Commissioner Brennan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ackley to go into executive session at 7:40pm inviting the following to discuss **a) Organizational Work in Preparation**

of Interviews: Chief McCarthy D.C. Dunn, Lt. Higgins, FF Kazzi and Lt. Smith. Motion carried.

Commission came out of executive session at 8:30pm Chair Joe noted no motions were made and no were taken in executive session.

Commission went back into executive session at 8:36pm with Chief McCarthy and Deputy Chief Dunn.

Commission came out of executive session at 9:37pm. Chair Joe noted no motions were made or votes taken in executive session.

12. Adjournment:

Being no further business Chair Joe motioned to adjourn at 9:37pm, seconded by Commissioner Ackley.

Respectfully submitted by Jude Fitzgerald

Recording Secretary