



STAMFORD FIRE COMMISSION

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Richard Lyons, Sr
Constance Hubbard
Andrew Holmes
Gregory Lodato

Minutes -Regular Meeting of the Stamford Fire Commission held November 9, 2016

Call to order: 5:20pm

Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence: Chairman Melzer asked that all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in gratitude to all Uniformed personnel who have served and who serve our Nation and our Communities, and in remembrance for those who have lost their lives in said service.

Attendees: Commissioners Melzer, Lyons, & Holmes; Chief Roach, AC Robles, AC Morris;

Public Comment: N/A

Chief Report:

Incidents:

714 total incidents, 36 fire Incidents - 9 Structure fires; 412 ems incidents. 3 Water rescue calls: one was a kayaker stuck out on the rocks off Cove beach. The other was a 13' Whaler blown off shore.

Commissioner Melzer asked if there was an acknowledgement of heroism by the department that was recognized. Chief Roach said it was not a departmental recognition.

Budget:

The CBA settlement has affected the budget and an additional appropriation is in progress for the FY 16/17 year.

Apparatus:

Engine 9 New Pumper is In-service.

Old E9 is having PM and getting ready for deployment.

Pump testing complete, all passed.

Ladder testing complete, lost one Aerial, and exploring options on cost of repair.

T2 annual service done and is going back in service.

E5 remains OSS, engine is fixed, however the springs need repair.

New tires for apparatus have been ordered.

Winterize the department apparatus for winter, snow plows, etc.

Flow testing for SCBA week of 11/28/16.

Personnel:

12 Retirements have been submitted, with three others possible.

Long term Sick -10 Long term IOD - 0

There are no promotional exams scheduled as they are negotiating with the Union on the weighing, as the City would like to go to a written and assessment exam replacing the written only format.

Training:

1. Hose Testing was scheduled; delayed at this time, possible in December.
2. Personnel are working with 2 probationary firefighters who have not completed EMT.
3. Various Officers are completing a variety of programs now standards required by contract.
4. All line personnel are in process of inspecting Turnout Gear for safety issues.

5. Hydrant winterization program to start shortly. In this process reports will be electronic as opposed to hand written.

New Business:

Commissioner Lodato had concerns with the transport of the Hoyt House that Emergency personnel (Fire, Police & EMS) would not be able to get into dead end roads or other areas if the road was blocked off and an incident occurred where emergency personnel were needed to have access and asked if there are provisions made for emergency personnel to be able to gain access to the area in case of emergency. The Chief stated that the City & Emergency personnel had contingency plans prepared for the move however anything could happen and they would adjust accordingly. The Fire Department in anticipation would put a unit inside of the area to have the ability to respond. The Chief stated that the Police were reporting to CAD so the Emergency personnel were apprised of the progress and delays as the project continued. The department consistently prepares in advance of similar items of this nature where area are compromised as in the putting up of cranes, repairing or replacing bridges, the Balloon parades, fireworks. AC Robles stated that they are preparing for next years scheduled bridge work. Discussion took place.

Commissioner Holmes questioned what the Fire department is doing in regards to the current drought situation. Chief Roach responded that the department is holding off on drills; not cleaning the apparatus or the apparatus floors in stations and they are training with dry hose. Commission Holmes inquired as to if there was any risk of hydrants failing in light of the drought condition. The Chief responded there was not.

Consolidation update: AC Morris introduced the performance measures of the Volunteer Fire Departments. There are currently 3 benchmarks: How many certified Firefighters, How many hours in Station(s), Training hours. The Volunteer departments receive additional funds monthly based on the benchmarks met by their respective departments. Commission Holmes asked how the benchmarks were derived. Chief Roach stated that they were based off the ISO who sets the rates based on hours and in negotiations with Volunteer Chiefs regarding the weighing of measures. The weighing will be revisited in the future. AC Morris stated the stations are not the same in activity, some more than others and the measures vary. Discussion took place. It was noted that retention of Volunteers is the goal and often times Volunteers firefighters become Career firefighters.

New business (cont.): AC Robles stated the department is partnering with Red Cross to do a Blitz install beginning Dec 1 with the goal to put in 200 smoke detectors, free of charge, to citizens of Stamford. At the recent Warren street fire smoke detectors were noted as saving residents lives. Flyers in English & Spanish shall be distributed in schools, there will message boards on streets, signs in front of Fire department w phone number to call for an install on all. The Chief noted that the PSH&W Director shall be part of the first install team. Some of the detectors will be combination Smoke/Carbon Monoxide detectors. Commissioner Lodato asked for families in rental property do you need property owner permission or are you going with just the tenant's permission? The Chief stated they are going in with tenant's permission and that there is liability in all and would rather deal with the liability of installing than the potential tragedy as a result of not installing. AC Robles stated that it's the law anyway, so they don't see an issue.

Minutes: By motion duly made the minutes of the September 2016 meeting were approved.

Adjournment: By motion duly made the Commission moved to adjourn at 5:46 pm