

Town of North Branford

Board of Fire Commissioners

North Branford, CT 06471

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #2 FIREHOUSE

SEPTEMBER 2, 2004

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Civitello at 7:35 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello, Commissioners Patricia Nagot and Joseph Tulli. Vice-Chairman Angelo Tosi and Commissioner Donald LaBanca were absent.

OTHERS: Officers: Interim Chief Anthony Esposito, Jr., District Chief Mark Amatrudo, Captains Laura Burich, John Florio, and John Onofrio.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Captain Onofrio requested permission to hold several fundraisers including a tag sale on September 11th, lobster dinner on October 9th and breakfast with a firefighter on October 23rd. The Board gave their approval for these fundraisers. District Chief Amatrudo publicly thanked the Commission, Interim Chief Esposito and members of all four companies for all their gifts, visits, and get-well wishes after his injury. Chairman Civitello also thanked everyone for their support and cards and gifts after the death of his wife. Commissioner Nagot made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Tulli to amend the Agenda to include an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue per CGS Sec. 1-200 (6)(A). On roll call vote, all in favor.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: A motion was made by Commissioner Nagot and seconded by Commissioner Tulli to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 3, 2004. On roll call vote, all in favor.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: A letter was received from the State listing the mandatory hours that the Fire Marshal and Inspectors have completed as of August 2, 2004. The New Haven County Fire Commissioners Association sent a meeting notice for September 15th.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for July was distributed at the meeting and it was noted that there were 119 calls. The ambulance monthly analyses for June and July was discussed.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Personnel Search Committee has another meeting scheduled for September 15th regarding the appointment of Fire Chief.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Interim Chief Esposito distributed a memorandum to the Board regarding the Chief's Report. It is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. Interim Chief Esposito discussed the point requirement for the ambulance pension which is 28 hours/month. He requested that the Board agree to credit the average of the earned hours from July 1 to November 30th to the volunteers during the gap period when volunteer shifts were not an option for 2003-2004 only and that motion was made by Commissioner Nagot and seconded by Commissioner Tulli. On roll call vote, all in favor. He stated that he would like the Board to recognize Barry

and Fran from Public Works with a certificate at the next meeting for all their efforts on behalf of the Fire Department. The Board will add this item to the agenda for the October meeting. Interim Chief Esposito discussed items regarding Company 4, planning and zoning reviews, and a Leadership and Administration seminar in October for officer training. The Special Hazards Unit will participate in a mass casualty drill in Durham on Saturday. Additional items discussed were: a risk and needs assessment has to be filed at the beginning of October, the hose and ladder testing is complete and, the grant for the dry hydrants was approved. Members of Company 1 raised almost \$6800 for muscular dystrophy and will present a check during the telethon. A circus will be held in town on September 24 – 26 and instead of paying for fire watch, free tickets are being offered to members who will go on fire watch.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chairman Civitello stated that the unfinished business is the search for a new chief that is ongoing and the recognition for the two Public Works employees.

NEW BUSINESS: Interim Chief Esposito expects to have the radio report in time for the October, or possibly November, meeting. The Town has requested public use on the tower at Commerce Drive.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Captain Onofrio stated that Company 3 will also sponsor a pig roast on September 25th at the Masonic Hall and the Board approved it. Captain Florio stated the fire hydrant at the school would be fired up and then the hydrants at Company 2 and Company 4 would be run. There was a discussion about the flags being lit at Company 4 and the fire alarms need to be tied in so the building can be monitored.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: The Board will discuss the radio system, recognize Barry Turner and Fran Merola, and review the pension statistics for 2003-2004. The final specifications for the new ambulance will be sent to the Board upon completion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nagot and seconded by Commissioner Tulli to convene the Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. regarding a personnel issue per CGS Sec. 1-200 (6)(A). On roll call vote, all in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tulli and seconded by Commissioner Nagot to reconvene from Executive Session to Regular Session at 8:38 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner Tulli and seconded by Commissioner Nagot to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen
Board Clerk