

# Town of North Branford

## Board of Fire Commissioners

### MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #2 FIREHOUSE

JANUARY 4, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:31p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Joseph Civitello, Vice-Chairman Angelo Tosi and Commissioners Donald LaBanca and Joseph Tulli. Commissioner Michael Manemeit was absent.

**OTHERS:** Officers: Chief William Seward III, Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo, District Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Captains John Florio, Ken Neubig, John Onofrio and Thomas Rak, Lieutenants Rich Lennon, John Rossotto and William Seward IV and Foreman Brandon Gleason.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** None.

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** A motion was made by Commissioner LaBanca and seconded by Commissioner Tulli that the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 5, 2006. On roll call vote, three in favor and one abstention by Vice-Chairman Tosi as he was absent from that meeting. A motion was then made by Vice-Chairman Tosi and seconded by Commissioner Tulli that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 7, 2006. On roll call vote, three in favor and one abstention by Commissioner LaBanca as he was absent from that meeting.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:** A notice was received from the New Haven County Fire Commissioners regarding the meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Brazzi's in New Haven.

**DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS:** The Fire Marshal's Reports for December and the year-end were distributed and discussed at the meeting. It was noted that there were 133 calls for December and 1483 calls for the entire year. Deputy Chief/Training Officer Colangelo presented his report to the Board and asked that the students who took the Fire Service Instructor Training be formally recognized at the next Board meeting. He noted that they all passed and did an excellent job.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Pension: Vice-Chairman Tosi noted that there is an issue regarding the percentage of calls required to qualify for a pension and the fact that Company #1 responds to more calls and is required to attend more calls. He and Commissioner LaBanca would like to meet with interested members for some feedback prior to presenting it to the Board. Purchasing and Budget: The budget for the Fire Department is due at the end of January.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF:** Chief Seward distributed a memorandum to the Board regarding the Chief's report for the month of December that is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. It was noted that the repowering of ET11 is underway and estimated to cost \$28,000.00. The Chief informed the Board that some funds will be returned under the Fire Act Grant. A mandatory sensitivity training session for Company 4 members is scheduled for the end of January. The Chief pointed out that there is a slight discrepancy of five calls between his report and the Fire Marshal's report for year-end totals possibly due to an addition error. The average response time for the calls was 9.5 minutes from time of dispatch until arrival on scene which the Board felt was excellent considering the layout of the Town.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** It was noted that Captain Neubig was instrumental regarding the accelerated implementation of the pension increase as he spoke directly to the Town Council at their meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Commissioner LaBanca made a motion regarding the appointment of a Deputy Chief, seconded by Vice-Chairman Tosi that the BOFC, pursuant to Section 3, subsection D of the Rules and Regulations hereby appoints Anthony P. Esposito, Jr. to the position of Deputy Chief of the North Branford Fire Department for a period of two years effective January 5, 2007 to January 4, 2009. On roll call, all in favor. A round of applause and congratulations to Deputy Chief Esposito followed the announcement. He was presented with his lapel pins, badge and a new helmet.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** Deputy Chief Esposito thanked the Board for his appointment and assured them he would give 110% to the position.

**WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION:** The budget is being prepared and there were no specific requests from any of the individual Companies. There will be a 3% increase and the Board felt that the positions of Fire Inspectors should be reinstated in the budget request. It was noted that inspections will increase due to the construction of Big Y. The Chief asked that the Officers' Meeting be rescheduled to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Commissioner LaBanca and seconded by Vice-Chairman Tosi that the BOFC adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen  
Board Clerk