

**Town of North Branford  
Board of Fire Commissioners**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4 FIREHOUSE**

**MARCH 5, 2009**

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

**ROLL CALL:** Chairman Joseph Civitello, and Commissioners Anthony DellaCamera and Angelo Tosi. Vice-Chairman Donald LaBanca and Commissioner James Blakeslee were absent.

**OTHERS:** Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Deputy Chief of Training Robert Colangelo, Fire Inspector/Acting Fire Marshal John O'Brien, and Captains Laura Burich, John Florio, and Ken Neubig.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** Company #3 requested permission for a fried dough pizza event on April 17<sup>th</sup> and a Blood Drive on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Company #2 has a golf date scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) gave approval for the fundraisers.

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Commissioner Tosi made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner DellaCamera that the BOFC approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2009. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS:** The Fire Marshal's Report for February listing 102 calls was distributed at the meeting along with the Ambulance Activity Report and reports from Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito and Deputy Chief of Training Robert Colangelo and Assistant Chief of Training Mark Amatrudo.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Pension:** Commissioner Tosi stated that the BOFC Pension Committee has received the information from the actuary and would like to schedule a meeting to discuss it. It was decided that a meeting will be held with the Captains at Company #4 on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. **Purchasing and Budget:** Chairman Civitello noted that he met with the Town Manager, Finance Director and Fire Chief Seward to discuss the Department's budget for the fiscal year 2009-2010. They were pleased with the meeting as there weren't many cuts to the budget. It was noted that the Town Manager is more in favor of fire rescue billing than Fire Marshal billing as he considers it an added burden to bringing in business to the Town.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF:** Chief Seward distributed a memorandum to the Board regarding his report for the month of February that is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. He stated that the workshop with the Town Council for the Department's budget will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and he would like a show of support from members. He reported that the Department received the CT Fair Plan Grant of \$500 and has purchased digital photography equipment for the Fire Marshal's Office. The Town has applied and been approved to implement a Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) and approximately 20 residents would like to participate in the program. Chief Seward spoke of his presentation to the Rotary Club about Department operations and will add his power point presentation to the Town's website so that everyone can view it. The antennas have now been installed at Company #1 for the communication system upgrades and the radio equipment has been reprogrammed, resulting in an improvement in portable radio transmissions.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** A meeting between the Captains and the BOFC Pension Committee is scheduled for a discussion on possible pension request changes.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Opticom systems and Knox Boxes have been installed in all the apparatus. Chief Seward informed the Board of a leak in ET 22 that is currently being repaired and the costs should be covered under warranty. The Chief also noted that the Rotary Club is giving a well-deserved award to Anthony P. Esposito, Jr. for “service above self” on April 1<sup>st</sup> at Amato’s at 6:00 p.m. Congratulations were offered to Anthony.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** None.

**WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION:** The Board’s Pension Committee will meet with the Captains.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Commissioner DellaCamera and seconded by Commissioner Tosi to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen  
Board Clerk