

# Town of North Branford

## Board of Fire Commissioners

### MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4 FIREHOUSE

MARCH 1, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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

**OTHERS:** Officers: Chief William Seward, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Fire Inspector John O'Brien, Captains Ken Neubig and John Onofrio, Lieutenant William Seward and Foremen Brandon Gleason and Marc Jennette.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** Fundraisers for the various Companies were discussed. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Tosi and seconded by Commissioner Tulli that the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) approve the fundraisers scheduled for Company #4, including photos with the Easter Bunny and, in December, with Santa, Chili Festival in October and participation with the Potato Festival in August. On roll call vote, all in favor. The fundraisers for Companies #3 and 2 were then discussed. Captain Onofrio mentioned a Texas holdem fundraiser to be scheduled and Chairman Civitello questioned what the prizes would be. Captain Onofrio assured Chairman Civitello that the prizes would be non-monetary gifts such as gift certificates, etc. Vice-Chairman Tosi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tulli, that the BOFC approve the fundraisers scheduled for Company #3 including the Annual Poker Run in September and a Texas holdem as well as the fundraiser for Company #2 which is the golf tournament scheduled for the end of June/beginning of July. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes of the February meeting could not be approved as there wasn't a quorum present at this meeting for their approval.

**NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:** A letter was received from the New Haven County Fire Commissioners Association regarding the annual dues for 2007. The bill will be given to the Finance Department for payment.

**DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS:** The Fire Marshal's Report for February was distributed and discussed at the meeting. It was noted that there were 117 calls for February. Reports were also received and distributed from Deputy Chief Esposito and Deputy Chief/Training Officer Colangelo. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Tosi, seconded by Commissioner Tulli, that the BOFC approve the reports submitted by the departmental officers including Fire Marshal Bunnell and Deputy Chiefs Esposito and Colangelo. On roll call vote, all in favor.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Purchasing and Budget: Chairman Civitello reported that he met with the Town Manager to discuss the budget for 2007-2008 and he noted that the positions of Fire Inspectors were put back in the budget for next fiscal year.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF:** Chief Seward distributed a memorandum to the Board regarding the Chief's report for the month of February that is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. It was noted that the Department is receiving a 2006 Aid to Firefighters Grant award to allow for upgrading of the self-

contained breathing apparatus. The federal funds will be \$296,457 and the Town will pay \$15,603. The Chief commended all who responded to the structure fire on February 7<sup>th</sup>. All personnel did a great job in getting the fire under control.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A request for a transfer of funds for the stipends paid as cash needed to be approved. Vice-Chairman Tosi made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Tulli, that the BOFC approve the transfer of funds totaling \$39,565.50 from account #101-4220-320-0000 (other contractual) with \$39,000 going to account #101-4220-102-0000 (part-time) and \$565.50 to account #101-4220-120-0000 (pension/social security) for the stipends paid as cash. On roll call vote, all in favor. The Chief stated that anyone who is out of work on workers compensation should not respond to any calls for the Department. He also informed the Board that Fire Marshal Bunnell had minor surgery and suggested they send a get-well basket.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS:** None.

**WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION:** Chairman Civitello stated that a date will have been scheduled for budget discussions with the Town Council. Recently appointed Commissioner Blakeslee was introduced to those in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Tosi and seconded by Commissioner Blakeslee to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen  
Board Clerk