

Town of North Branford

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4

NOVEMBER 1, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello, Vice-Chairman Angelo Tosi and Commissioners Anthony DellaCamera, Anthony Gallicchio and Ed Prunier.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captain Rich Lennon and Foremen Corey Roberts.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Prunier, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the October 4, 2012 Meeting as presented. On roll call vote, three in favor and one abstention by Vice-Chairman Tosi due to his absence from that meeting.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: A letter was received and read from Interim Town Manager Bonnie Therrien regarding the permission to use contractors to work on the firehouses that are not on the Town's bid list. A letter was received and read from Len LaLuna, Staff Representative of AFSCME Council 4 directed to the Town Manager, regarding the Fire Chief making accusations at a meeting about alleged dispatch problems. Fire Chief Seward feels that this is an attempt against his reputation. Chairman Civitello and Commissioner DellaCamera met with the Mayor and Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Police Commission. At that time, all the information that was presented to this Board at the October meeting was then presented to the Police Commission. These meetings will occur every few months for the purpose of trying to resolve any issues between fire and police.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for October listing 197 calls was distributed. A report was received from Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Jr. The alarm data and Ambulance Activity Reports were also distributed for September. Mutual aid calls were discussed as was automatic fire alarms.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Transportation: There was discussion about commercial vs. custom chassis and the size of the rescue truck for Company #1. There was also discussion and differing opinions about the rescue truck being designed for a six-man team.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward's memorandum to the Board regarding his report dated November 1, 2012 was distributed and is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. The Chief gave an update on the Simulcast system and felt that progress is being made. He conducted training for two dispatchers focusing on fire department procedures and operations. He will conduct another training session on November 6th. The hydraulic pistons are leaking on Tower 1 and it is scheduled for repair. All the stations were staffed in anticipation of Hurricane Sandy and the personnel did a superb job during the hurricane. Deputy Chief Esposito worked at the EOC during the storm. The Town did declare a state of emergency during the storm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Seward informed the Board that the Interim Town Manager held a meeting of all department heads and requested a 10-year strategic plan of all projects planned for the department. The Board proceeded to discuss a 10-year plan for the purchase of new fire trucks to replace older vehicles, taking into consideration the age of the vehicle and the amount of use for each vehicle. The Chief will present the plan to the Interim Town Manager.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Tosi and seconded by Commissioner DellaCamera to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen
Board Clerk