

Town of North Branford

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4 FIREHOUSE

MARCH 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 and Commissioners Anthony DellaCamera, Daniel Munro and Ed Prunier. Vice-Chairman Angelo Tosi was absent.

Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito called for a moment of silence for former Assistant Chief Frank Sansevero.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains Ken Neubig and Gene Stabile, Lieutenants Joseph Manzi and Steve Torino.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Prunier, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the February 2, 2012 Meeting. On roll call, three in favor and one abstention by Commissioner Munro as he was absent from the February meeting.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: None.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for February was distributed to the Board listing 138 calls. Reports were received from Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Jr. and Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo. The alarm data for February was also distributed along with a revised Ambulance Activity Report for January, 2012.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Purchasing and Budget: Chairman Civitello noted that he and Chief Seward met with the Town Manager regarding the budget and minimal changes were made with no items being removed from the proposed budget. The meeting with the Town Council is scheduled for March 24th at 11:00 a.m.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward's memorandum to the Board regarding his report dated March 1, 2012 was distributed and is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. He informed the Board about the status of the emergency operations center and the apparatus DOT inspection and preventative maintenance program. The fire hydrant identification project is progressing and additional hydrant flags have been ordered. He informed the Board that the department was issued a license for the installation and operation of the microwave system. He distributed a training schedule for Rescue Core at no cost to the members. The department will receive \$72,000 for the SCBA Compressor from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. He has ordered 177 portable radio batteries to replace 2006 issued units. He noted that new hoses are being purchased for the trucks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Chief discussed the goal of requiring minimum qualifications for company officers. He inquired of the officers present as to their opinions. Captain Stabile suggested that officers obtain EMS certification and firefighter II status. Captain Neubig agreed. Deputy Chief Esposito agreed that a baseline of standards should be required for officers. It was noted that the current language

in the Rules and Regulations should be changed from "recommended" to "required" for minimum qualifications. Chairman Civitello stated that he and Commissioner Prunier will discuss this issue. There are liability issues if standards aren't followed. The Chief reminded the Companies that meetings must be posted and minutes must be taken and posted since they are organizations and must follow FOI rules. He will check with the Town Clerk regarding possible requirements of posting at the Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Lynn Riordan and her husband Mark attended the meeting. Lynn Riordan wanted to share her feelings with the Board and the fire department regarding her son's fatal accident. She attends driver education classes and speaks about her son's accident whenever she can. She read a portion of her speech and stated that she was thankful to the fire department for all their efforts to revive her son at the May 23, 2009 accident. She said she appreciates what the department members do on a daily basis. She asked that the department sponsor Matt's 5K Mission this May. The Chief encouraged the members to support the 5K on May 20th. The Board thanked the Riordans for attending the meeting.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: The Board will know the outcome of the budget meetings at the April meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner Munro and seconded by Commissioner Prunier to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen
Board Clerk