

Town of North Branford

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #3 FIREHOUSE

JUNE 7, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello, Vice-Chairman Angelo Tosi and Commissioners Anthony DellaCamera and Daniel Munro. Commissioner Ed Prunier was absent.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Captains Ken Neubig and Gene Stabile, Lieutenants Jason Conway, Rich Lennon, Joseph Manzi and Steve Torino, and Foremen Corey Roberts and Peter Stadolnik. **OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:** Councilor Andrew Esposito.

Commissioner (Comm.) DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman (VChair) Tosi, to amend the Agenda to move Item #13 Executive Session to first on the Agenda before Item #3 Public Hearings. On roll call vote, all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: VChair Tosi made a motion, seconded by Comm. DellaCamera, that the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) adjourn to Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. for discussion on a personnel matter pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) Section 1-200 (6)(A) and those present include the Board, Chief William Seward and Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito. On roll call vote, all in favor. VChair Tosi made a motion, seconded by Comm. DellaCamera, to reconvene to public session at 7:55 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Comm. DellaCamera made a motion that was seconded by VChair Tosi, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the May 3, 2012 Meeting. On roll call, three in favor and one abstention by Comm. Munro due to his absence from the May meeting.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: The Board received an invitation to the June 19th meeting of the New Haven County Fire Commissioners' Association at Brazi's Restaurant in New Haven. Most of the Board will plan on attending this meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for May was distributed to the Board listing 149 calls. Reports were received and distributed from Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Jr. and Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo. The alarm data and Ambulance Activity Reports were also distributed for April, 2012. The Chief noted that there are now 29 members in the department trained in the Rescue Core training program which results in 18% of the department being trained in technical rescue operations. Comm. Munro made a motion, seconded by VChair Tosi, that the BOFC accept the reports from the departmental officers. On roll call, all in favor.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward's memorandum to the Board regarding his report for May, 2012 was distributed and is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. The Chief gave an update on the EOC that is located in the former office of the Probate Court in Town Hall. He noted the fire hydrant identification project has been completed and a press release issued. The simulcast equipment has been

ordered for the installation on the towers at Reeds Gap Road, Ochenkowski's and Commerce Drive. The Breathing Air Compressor bids have been received and awarded.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Chief discussed the recent meeting with the Town Council regarding the regionalization of the dispatch center. The Chief felt that regionalization is necessary for safety reasons, level of dispatchers would improve and the Town would have a modern communications center with \$500,000 at the Town's disposal towards the new center. He felt that the dispatch center can not operate effectively with only one dispatcher. According to Town Code, the Police Commission has the control over the dispatch personnel and the police department building. The Chief felt the Council only heard one side as Joan Hillard spoke regarding the collect system (regarding warrants) and how it should be housed at the Police Department. The Chief felt that the Police and Fire should find a solution together regarding regionalization and present the proposal to the Council. State monies could be used to rehab the Police Department or another site for the dispatch center. Councilor Esposito agreed that only generic information was presented to the Council and he agreed that a Council meeting should be scheduled with multiple state officials and the Police and Fire Commissioners. Chairman Civitello will speak with the Mayor regarding scheduling a meeting between the Council, Fire, Police and multiple agency representatives to discuss the issues regarding regionalization.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Action re: Reappointment of Fire Chief Seward for July 6, 2012 through July 5, 2015: Comm. Munro commended the Chief on his performance and was appreciative of his dedication to the department, obtaining grants, etc. The Board agreed. Comm. DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by VChair Tosi, that the Board reappoint Chief Seward for a three-year period from July 6, 2012 through July 5, 2015. On roll call vote, all in favor. The Chief thanked the Board for their comments and his reappointment. Discussion and Action re: Reappointment of Deputy Chief/Training Officer Colangelo for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014: VChair Tosi made a motion, seconded by Comm. Munro, that the BOFC reappoint Deputy Chief Colangelo for a two-year period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014. On roll call vote, all in favor. Discussion and Action re: Reappointment of Deputy Fire Marshal O'Brien for July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014: The Chief directed the Board to C.G.S. Sec. 29-297 regarding appointment of local fire marshals, deputies and provisional fire marshals. Briefly, it states that the fire marshal and deputy fire marshal continue to serve in their respective offices until removed for cause. VChair Tosi made a motion, seconded by Comm. Munro, that the BOFC reappoint Deputy Fire Marshal O'Brien per C.G.S. Sec. 29-297. On roll call vote, all in favor. The Chief distributed and read a General Order regarding the department application process and asked for company input. The main issue regards a probationary member. There was a discussion regarding the document and Chief Seward will change the wording for item #8 concerning probationary members.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Company #3 will sponsor a fried dough pizza event on June 22nd. Deputy Chief Esposito thanked all regarding the response for the Memorial Day Parade. It was noted that Rescue 3 provided backup power for the stage during the speeches.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: Chairman Civitello noted that July and August meetings are usually cancelled unless an issue arises. VChair Tosi made a motion, seconded by Comm. DellaCamera, that the BOFC suspend the July and August meetings based on past practices. On roll call vote, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by VChair Tosi and seconded by Comm. DellaCamera to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen
Board Clerk