

Town of North Branford

Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4

NOVEMBER 6, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello, Vice Chairman Ed Prunier, Commissioners Kenneth Ash, Andrew Campion and Anthony DellaCamera.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Assistant Chief/Training Officer Mark Amatrudo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains Ken Neubig and Gene Stabile, and Lieutenants Kevin Lyon, Corey Roberts, and Steve Torino.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: A letter from Steve Torino was read that expressed his support for Chief Seward and the fire department. He requested that the BOFC support the Chief and that the BOFC demand public apologies from those individuals who made negative comments about the Chief and the department at recent Town meetings. The Board affirmed that the Chief and the department have their full support.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner DellaCamera, that the Board approves the Minutes of the June 5, 2014 Meeting. On roll call vote, three in favor and two abstentions by Commissioners Ash and Campion as they were absent from that meeting. Commissioner Ash made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the BOFC approves the Minutes of the October 2, 2014 Meeting. On roll call vote, four in favor and one abstention by Vice-Chairman Prunier, due to his absence from that meeting. Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner DellaCamera, that the BOFC approves the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 30, 2014. On roll call vote, all in favor.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: A thank you letter from Superintendent of Schools Schoonmaker was received and read regarding the junior firefighters who assisted at the Homecoming Game on October 25th. He was very appreciative of their help.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for October listing 167 calls was distributed. Reports were distributed from Deputy Chief Esposito and Deputy Chief/Training Officer Colangelo.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Pension: Deputy Chief Esposito noted that the next Town Pension Committee meeting is November 12th. Communications: The Chief informed the Town Council of the Department's needs.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward submitted a memorandum to the Board dated November 2, 2014. Bid specs will be advertised and are expected to be due November 20th for tanker 3. The budget for CMED will be discussed at their November 13th meeting. He issued a standard operating guideline for the ebola disease and there will be training exercises held for each Company. The East Shore District Health Department will be the spokesperson for the Town regarding the ebola virus. The Chief thanked the BOFC and the department for their support and commended the department on the great job they do. He disbursed copies of the department's budget and insurance information on the buildings pursuant to the Board's previous request.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chairman Civitello noted that the issues regarding the ordinances that were proposed by the Board still need to be resolved. The department will schedule a live burn in January, 2015. Vice-Chairman Prunier inquired about fire hydrants and felt that the department should inspect them once a year even though Regional Water Authority is responsible for the maintenance of them. There was a discussion about the inspection of the hydrants and the Chief will request information from RWA about their schedule and when they were last inspected.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chief asked for direction regarding comments made by a member on Facebook. There was a discussion about comments made in the social media. Commissioner DellaCamera inquired as to why there are two public hearings and comments sections on the agenda. The Board will determine if it is necessary to schedule two items for public hearings. Company #4 received a new copy machine and the Board determined that the old machine was surplus. Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the BOFC deems the Model DL27 copier, serial number 1100082, as surplus and recommends the disposal of the asset be given to Eric Emanuelson, a Nbfd member, and forwards a letter to the Town Manager advising him. On roll call vote, all in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: There was a discussion about the reason for the rotation of meetings at each company. Chief Seward instructed the Deputy Fire Marshal to determine if the occupancy load is posted at each meeting room in the fire houses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the BOFC adjourn to Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. for discussion on a personnel matter pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 200(6)(A). Those present include the Board, Chief Seward, Deputy Chief Esposito and Assistant Chief/Training Officer Amatrudo. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash that the BOFC reconvenes to public session at 9:23 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the BOFC reappoints Mark Amatrudo as Assistant Chief of Training for a two year period from November 6, 2014 to November 5, 2016. On roll call vote, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner DellaCamera, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the BOFC adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk