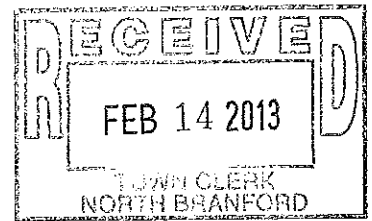


**Town of North Branford
Board of Fire Commissioners**



MINUTES

FEBRUARY 7, 2013

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #2

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 Anthony DellaCamera, Anthony Gallicchio and Ed Prunier.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo, Assistant Chief/Training Officer Mark Amatudo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains Rich Lennon, Ken Neubig, Gene Stabile and Gary Steck, and Lieutenants Joe Manzi and John Rossotto.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Chief Seward noted that Dan Cassidy has completed his Eagle Project. Dan coordinated teams who put hydrant flags on all 233 fire hydrants in town. He also supplied the department with a spreadsheet on the location of all the fire hydrants in town. Dan Cassidy made a presentation of \$867.00 to the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) to be used for the ongoing maintenance of the flags should they need repair or replacement. The Board was very appreciative of the great job he did.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Commissioner Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gallicchio, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2013 Meeting as presented. On roll call vote, all in favor.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: The Chief received a thank you note from Lt. D'Ancicco regarding the support he received from the members due to his mom's passing.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for January listing 163 calls was distributed. Reports were received and distributed from Deputy Chief/Training Officer Colangelo and Assistant Chief/Training Officer Amatruado. The alarm data and Ambulance Activity Reports were also distributed for December.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Pension: The next Town Pension Committee Meeting scheduled for February has been postponed until March.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward's memorandum to the Board regarding his report dated February 7, 2013 was distributed and is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. The Chief informed the Board that the Simulcast system is on line as of this date. It is transmitting simultaneously from Reeds Gap Road, Parsonage Hill and Commerce Drive. He is attempting to obtain monies for microwave connections which will increase the level of efficiency. He discussed the apparatus maintenance. He noted that the Potato Festival will expand to four days this year. He explained to the Board about the water damage from a leaky roof at the Police Department and how it affected the console system which sustained heavy water damage. Consequently, fire department units couldn't be activated. Chief Seward stationed personnel at all the stations and dispatch had to telephone the individual stations to alert them to a call. Mutual aid calls and the issues other towns were having regarding sending their paramedic units out of town were discussed. There was some discussion about sending Ambulance 44 with a crew to mutual

aid calls. It was noted that the Town has a signed agreement with CMED and the ambulance can be deployed wherever it is needed. The Board agreed that the department should not remove themselves from the list of mutual aid responders. There was a discussion about training other Company members who are interested so that they can respond with the ambulance. The Chief will send a general letter to all the membership regarding the pay, etc. and set up training nights for those interested. The Chief informed the Board that Gary Steck is the new captain of Company #4. He replaces Laura Burich who was the captain for many years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Interim Town Manager announced that there will be a budget presentation on Saturday, March 16th between the Department and the Town Council. The Chief noted that he is unavailable on that date. The Chief and Chairman Civitello will meet with the Interim Town Manager to discuss the budget.

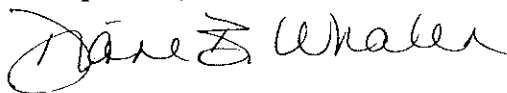
NEW BUSINESS: The fire on Pineview Drive was discussed. The Chief informed the Board that it was the first fire fatality in many years and the victim died of smoke inhalation. There was a good response to the fire from the members and the cause remains undetermined. Chief Seward requested tapes of all the 911 calls for the first twenty minutes from the Police Department. He informed the Board that the dispatcher did not alert the Fire Department that there was a victim trapped in the house.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Chief Seward sent emails to all officers regarding storm preparations for Friday. The Town will open the EOC at the Police Department during the storm. He also informed the companies that he will need the specs on the generators at their stations as the Town will apply for a grant for generators.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: It was noted that the Company #2 installation dinner is scheduled for Monday, February 11th at Doody's.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner Prunier and seconded by Commissioner DellaCamera to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane B. Whalen
Board Clerk



**TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT TO THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 2013**

TO: Joseph Civitello
Chairperson, Honorable Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Chief William Seward, III
DATE: February 7, 2013

SIMULCAST SYSTEM PROJECT STATUS

The Chief continues to work with Tactical Communications on the radio system upgrade; all Nbfd Officers and Fire Police portable radios have been modified for narrow band operations. Also, working in concert with Nbfd staff and the radio vendor, we conducted comprehensive radio tests throughout the town. Areas of concentration included those identified as weak location in the 2005 coverage study. During these tests a number of problems were identified in the new system and an engineer was called into the town by Tactical. With changes made to the system testing continued which was positive. As of this week, we will continue to test and hope to be able to place the new system into service my February 7th.

APPARATUS REPLACEMENT – RESCUE 11 & MEDIC 4

The Chief submitted written specifications to the Board of Fire Commissioners which were voted on and accepted in a Special meeting on January 24th. The bids were provided to the Interim Town Manager and Purchasing Assistant for publication. The bid opening is scheduled for 11:00 am on February 14th at Town Hall.

APPARATUS MAINTENANCE

At the direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners, repairs to Special Hazards Unit were completed by E.J. Boughton – this included replacing the steering box and fuel pump. Annual DOT inspections have been started on apparatus; while examining Engine 11 a number of cracks were identified on the water tank. Since the poly tanks have a lifetime warranty, the repair of the tank was completed at the Boughton facility by the vendor. To date the following apparatus have passed the mandated DOT/DMV inspection along with having the fire pump serviced and tested: Engine 1, Engine 11& Engine 2.

Additionally, the following tires have been replaced on apparatus: Tower 1 (2 front, 8 rear), Rescue 22 (4 rear with new rims), Engine Tanker 22 (2 front), Engine 1 (2 front, 4 rear). Based upon funds available in FY 2013-14, tires on Engine 11, Brush 2, Engine 3 and Rescue 3 will be scheduled for replacement. * Rescue 11 and SHU tires will be addressed through the acquisition of the new Rescue 11.

OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION

- Attended Town staff meetings
- Participated in the interview process for a new Emergency Management Director
- Attended two meeting regarding the Town Festival which will be extended to 4 days
- Attended the Region 2 REPT Steering Committee meeting in Cheshire
- Attended two meeting on the RT. 80 construction project
- Worked with the Town Finance Director/Treasurer on the FD and EMS Budgets
- Please refer to letter from Lt. D’Ancicco regarding failure of Communications Center main and back up console failure. (Chief to elaborate on Nbfd deficiencies)