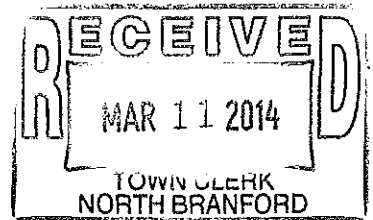


**Town of North Branford
Board of Fire Commissioners**



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #4

MARCH 6, 2014

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 Ed Prunier and Commissioners Kenneth Ash, Anthony DellaCamera and Anthony Gallicchio.

OTHERS: Officers: Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chief Anthony P. Esposito, Jr., Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains James Asmus, Richard Lennon, Ken Neubig and Eugene Stabile, Lieutenants Kevin Lyon, Henry Rak, John Rossotto, and Steve Torino and Foremen James Gleason, Corey Roberts and Peter Stadolnik. **OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:** Mayor Anthony Candelora.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: None.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gallicchio, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented. On roll call vote, all in favor.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: None.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for February was distributed listing 146 calls. Reports were also distributed from Deputy Chief Anthony Esposito, Jr. and Deputy Chief/Training Officer Robert Colangelo.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Transportation: Commissioner Ash inquired as to when the inspection of the vehicles will begin and it was decided that the inspections will be scheduled through Chief Seward. He will request that the Captain and the engineer also be present. The new rescue vehicle will be in service by March 15th.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: Chief Seward's memorandum to the Board regarding his report dated March 3, 2014 was distributed and is attached to the Minutes and made a part hereof. The Chief noted that his reports will be sent electronically to the Board in the future. The brackets for the tools for the rescue vehicle have been ordered prior to the spending freeze currently in effect. All expenditures have to be approved by the Town Manager. The Chief felt that this would be a problem since Company #4, for example, orders supplies as needed for the ambulance. Deputy Chief Esposito noted that the Town Manager clarified his memo on the spending freeze and the ambulance fund would not be included in the freeze. The Board was not in agreement with the freeze and felt that items already approved in the current budget should be allowed to be purchased. There was a discussion on the spending freeze and the budget items that should be purchased prior to July 1st. The Chief informed the Board of ongoing issues with the NexGen system and the firehouse software. Chief Seward also informed the Board that a shredder is in with the electronic equipment at the police department and it creates dust which is interfering with the simulcast system. He felt it was a disgrace and that a major problem could occur with the radio system. Deputy Chief Esposito noted that new computers will be purchased July 1st for all firehouses and the server will be replaced at the police department. The Mayor suggested that a cabinet be made to house the equipment. He suggested that the woodworking shop at the high school

might make a cabinet. The Chief received the final ISO report and provided a copy for the Board and will post it on the Town's website. The current rating is 67.27. Two deficient areas that were noted were: training, because there is no training facility in Town and water supply, due to lack of fire hydrants. The Chief and Chairman met with the Town Manager to discuss the proposed budget and the \$60,000 that was proposed for personal protective equipment was removed by the Town Manager and put under possible grants. The Chief stated that membership to the Department remains suspended due to budgetary constraints. The Board would like a list, including prices, from the Chief of the absolute necessities for the department. He will provide what is needed according to OSHA requirements. There was a discussion regarding a meeting between the police and fire commissions for the purpose of discussing procedures and policies of the two departments. Deputy Chief Esposito suggested that the communications committee be resurrected and the Mayor agreed to appoint three councilors to the Committee along with two police and two fire commissioners. He will put in on the next agenda for the meeting on March 18th. It will be a public meeting and anyone can attend. The Chief noted that a department member driving a fire vehicle hit a member of the public's vehicle and there is a \$7000.00 repair bill. He issued a general order to be followed any time one of the fire department vehicles is involved in an accident.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The payer mix for the ambulance billing has changed. More people are uninsured and more people are on Medicare as opposed to private medical insurance. A question was raised as to the property at the town dump being used for training grounds. One issue that was brought up was that smoke would be created and nearby neighbors would not agree to it.

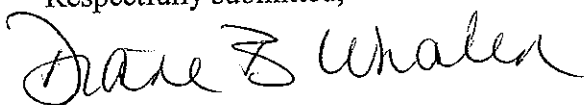
NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Civitello noted that former Commissioner Angelo Tosi was on the Board for twenty-two years and the Board would like to recognize his service with a plaque to be presented at the next meeting. Commissioner Ash inquired as to whether the membership could get free access to the town's fitness center. The Mayor encouraged the Board to send a letter to the Park and Rec department as well as to the Town Council requesting use of the facility.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Chief Seward asked for input from the Board regarding the presentation for the budget and clarified that a request for a tanker for Company #3 would be on the agenda. The Board agreed that a power point presentation should be given. Lieutenant Torino felt that the entire department should be present at the next Town Council meeting and be encouraged to speak on behalf of the department as to what is needed in the budget. Lt. Torino met with the Town Manager to discuss the potato festival and Company #3's involvement.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: The budget will be discussed with the Town Council on March 22nd at 11:00 a.m. Deputy Chief Esposito noted that the numbers may possibly get donated for the street numbering ordinance from Country Paint. The Special Hazards Unit is being donated to public works.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Commissioner DellaCamera and seconded by Vice-Chairman Prunier to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 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
FEBRUARY 2014**

TO: Joseph Civitello
Chairperson, Honorable Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Chief William Seward, III

DATE: March 3, 2014

RESCUE 11 (NEW) STATUS

Members from Company 1 continue working on the location and mounting of equipment and we are awaiting brackets that have been ordered for tools. Additionally, at the request of Madison FD, Rescue 11 was taken to their downtown station to determine if the vehicle would fit into the firehouse; they are seeking to purchase a similar vehicle.

NEXGEN & FIREHOUSE DATA COLLECTION

There continues to be issues with data transfer from the main server at Police Headquarters as well as access to the system by personnel. NexGen has been contacted. The transmission of alarms into text messages continues to be delayed often up to 6 hours after an incident occurs. NexGen has advised the Chief that servers at the NBPD need to be replaced as support is limited and the generation of spam jeopardizes the system. (reference emails)

ISO FINAL REPORT

The Chief and Town Manager received the final report from ISO on the town's public protection classification. As predicted, North Branford now has a PPC of 4/8B or 4/4Y. A copy of the report is hereby provided to the BoFC for review. The Chief will provide a PDF version to be posted on the town website.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

in accordance with the General Order issued 7/22/2013, membership to the Department remains suspended until further notice except as outlined in the Chief's order. Budgetary constraints that remain in effect and or reductions in the FY 2014-15 operating budget will impact the NBFD's operation and limit resources.

OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATION

- The Chief attended the Region 2 REPT Steering Committee Meeting in Milford
- The Chief attended the Department Head meeting at Town Hall
- The Chief attended the "Fire Service Intelligence Engagement Working Group" meeting on February 4th.
- The Chief met with a representative from Firematic to perform a service check on new HURST equipment at Station 1.
- The Chief worked with members of Company's 1,2 & 3 on the redistribution of equipment carried on the Special Hazards Unit (OOS). Rescue 22 will be assigned Hazmat Decon responsibilities.