

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, June 15, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 18:05 hours. A quorum was present.

Roll Call: In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Stein, Weber, Brennan and Riso were present. Also, present were Chief Edo, and Assistant Chief Fabrizi.

- II. **Public Statements limited to the function of the Board of Fire Commissioners:**

None

- III. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – May 18, 2021

Commissioner Stein stated page three of the minutes of May 18, 2021 should be corrected. The agenda item titled IX. Executive Session should be eliminated and item X. Unfinished Business on the agenda should indicate the reason the board entered into executive session.

Commissioners Stein and Weber made and second a motion to correct the minutes of the May 18, 2021 Regular Meeting to reflect that the board entered into executive session at 19:25 for the purpose of discussing Grievance 21-002. The public session continues at 19:35. It was noted that no votes were taken during the executive session. Motions carried unanimously.

- IV. **Communications:**

None

- V. **Chairman's Report:**

None

- VI. **Committees Report:**

- a) Personnel Committee: None
- b) Maintenance & Equipment: Commissioner Brennan stated the new Engine 4 should arrive by mid-summer. Due to the Tower being stored other aerial apparatus should be looked into.
- c) Safety Committee Liaison: Commissioner Brennan attended the Safety Committee meeting on Monday June 7th. The meeting was interrupted by a gas leak and fire.

VII. Chief's Report:

Testing Update – The applications closed and ninety one candidates are scheduled to take the written test. The Chief is hoping a credible list will be able to come out of the process. Commissioner Riso mentioned that North Haven was having their test the same night and would it interfere with Milford's process. The Chief stated he didn't think it would have any effect on the process. Chief Edo stated approximately sixty candidates would pass the written and out of the sixty possibly thirty would be on the list. The list would then go to the board after background checks are completed for interviews. There is no rush to get recruits into the August 3 class and the department will wait for the Fire Academy's February class. He stated there have been talks in the department of one or two retirements to come and there will be a Lieutenants test coming soon. Chairman McGrath asked how the test would be conducted. Chief Edo informed the board that the Battalion Chief of Training is administering the firefighter test, as well as three office staff monitoring. He also stated the test is at Platt Tech High School.

New Engine 4 Update – The Chief stated that Engine 4 is complete and should arrive by July 4th, depending on traffic. Assistant Chief Begley will go and get the final look on June 23rd 1st then the apparatus would go to Bulldog for mounting work. The goal is to have it in service by August 1st. Commissioner Brennan asked if the early arrival was due to the new engine being the same specs as Engine 7. Chairman McGrath stated that the process was quicker by a few months. Chief Edo confirmed this, saying that it cut the time by at least five months. The truck will be housed at Station 8. The old Engine 4 will get a new transmission and be used as the first spare. Chairman McGrath asked if there was any update on the removal of old apparatus. Commissioner Brennan stated that maybe neighboring towns could repair and use the old salvage that is not used as spares. Chief Edo will direct that task to Assistant Chief Begley once he is back. Commissioner Riso mentioned an agent showing up at the Seemans Lane property as indicated in the report submitted by the training division. GSA was ensuring the buildings usage had not changed. Chief Edo confirmed that the Milford Training & Regional Distribution Facility is being used for what the department said it would be used for. He then stated that OSHA is coming to the department next week inspecting the department on procedures, policies and facilities. This will allow the department to correct items without being fined. Assistant Chief Fabrizi explained this was long overdue and he tried to get them to come visit when he was the Training Battalion Chief but OSHA did not have enough resources. He stated it has possibly been ten years since their last visit and this visit will allow a much larger window to meet compliance. Commissioner Riso inquired if the Safety Committee would fall under the OSHA guidelines. Assistant Chief Fabrizi believed it would.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

None

IX. Unfinished Business:

None

X. New Equipment:

Commissioner Brennan asked about the status of the new ambulance that was ordered from EMS revenue. Chief Edo informed the board that the status was delayed until the fall. Chief Edo stated there are three running ambulances and two spares currently available.

XI. Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners:

Commissioner Brennan stated when receiving reports, he would like the board to be informed regarding retirement or promotions. Chief Edo stated this does not happen every month. Commissioner Stein affirmed that promotions come before the board at the ceremonial swearing in. He stated the department should continue to formalize the promotion process. Commissioner Riso questioned the number of recruits being sent to the academy. Chief Edo indicated he would like to send half of the vacancies as budgetary restraints limit the number of recruits permitted.

XII. Adjournment:

Commissioners Weber and Riso made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:40 Motion carried unanimously.

UNAPPROVED SUBJECT TO CORRECTION
Recorded by Gloria Gouse