

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Commissioners Conference Room at Fire Headquarters
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Call to Order: Chairman Riso called the meeting to order at 1904 hours. A quorum was present.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Thomas Riso, Karen Craig, John Healy, Jonathan Bercham, and William A. Brennan. Also present were Chief Louis A. LaVecchia, Assistant Chief Robert J. Healey, Assistant Chief Daniel L. Johnson, Union President Paul Geer, and Firefighter Luke Kyer.

2. Public Statements limited to the function of the Board of Fire Commissioners:

None.

Motion made to amend the agenda to swear in Firefighter Kyer. Motion made by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner Brennan to amend the agenda to swear in Firefighter Kyer. Motion carried unanimously. Firefighter Luke Kyer was sworn in.

3. Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Meeting - February 16, 2010

Commissioners Healy and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2010, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Communications:

- Thank-you letter regarding the recent memorial service for Barbara Berner Zitullo.

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- Letter from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Lieutenant Anthony Schirillo to Chief LaVecchia regarding the Fire Department's response to the recent tractor trailer rollover on I95, and how the "valiant efforts" of the firefighters who responded saved a life.
- Statement from Governor Jodi Rell regarding the recent tractor trailer rollover on I95.
- Letter from the Public Safety Committee of the City of Bridgeport thanking Dan Warrell for helping in their recent hiring process.
- Letter to Chief LaVecchia from City Clerk Linda Stock thanking the Department for the recent invitation to the open house.

5. Committee Reports

Assistant Chief Johnson reported on the Sutphen Quint and other trucks.

6. Chief's Report

Chief LaVecchia reported that a Building Committee has been named for the new firehouse. The Committee members are Commissioners Healy and Brennan

Chief LaVecchia said that there were several significant calls due to the storm over the weekend, mostly regarding I95.

Chief LaVecchia presented to the Board an ISO update regarding the new fire hydrant regulations recently implemented. The Chief reported that another update will be sent in three months.

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7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business

Commissioner Craig presented a letter from Nicholas Helinko regarding the recent passing of Jessica Dmbrowski, wife of Firefighter Jason Dmbrowski. The letter asks permission of the Board to hold a fund-raising benefit for Firefighter Dmbrowski and his family.

Commissioners Brennan and Smith made and seconded a motion to approve the fund-raising benefit. *Motion unanimously carried.*

The Chief gave a report about the updated fire hydrant regulations. He also explained the changes to the appeals process, and discussion was held by all members of the Board.

Commissioners Healy and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the regulations with the admitted changes. *Motion carried unanimously.* *Note: Full copy of the fire hydrant regulations may be found on the Fire Department website.

9. Comments/Concerns of the Commissioners:

Commissioner Riso expressed that everyone did a great job at the recent open house. He said he learned a lot and was very impressed. All members of the Board agreed.

Commissioner Riso also commended the newsletter, saying it is very helpful, and Commissioner Healy agreed.

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Commissioner Riso also discussed the 911 Center problems. Assistant Chief Healey explained the switch from DSL internet to cable, and that progress is being made. Discussion was held by all.

Chief LaVecchia reported that the New Haven County Commissioners' meeting will be held Wednesday, March 24th at Brazzi's on Long Wharf.

10. Adjournment

Commissioners Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 1945 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by C. Birney