

AMENDED MINUTES dated MAY 1, 2019

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Commissioner's Conference Room
At Fire Headquarters
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, March 20, 2018

1. Call to Order: Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 19:15 hours. A quorum was present.

Roll Call: In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Smith, Stein, Brennan, and Weber were present. Also, present was Chief Douglas Edo and Assistant Chiefs Gary Baker and Bernie Begley. Commissioner Riso was out of town.

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

None

3. Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Meeting – February 22, 2018

Commissioners Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2018, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Communications:

Commissioner Smith reported that the Department received the following communications:

i) A thank you note from Room 23 of the JFK Elementary School.

5. Chairman's Report:

Chairman McGrath thanked the union and wished them well on the upcoming James Mattioli 5K.

6. Committees Reports:

a) Personnel Committee: Commissioner Stein had nothing to report.

b) Maintenance & Equipment: Commissioner Brennan had nothing to report.

Commissioner Stanford arrived at 17:25

7. Chief's Report:

Chief Edo indicated that the department budget that was approved by the Board of Finance will be going before the Board of Aldermen on May 2, 2018.

The Chief indicated that several proposals on the new engine were received by the department. The range was from \$515,000 to \$590,000. The department is evaluating apparatus at Stratford Fire similar to the lowest proposal. Ferrara's (the manufacturer of Squad 1) proposal is also being evaluated by the department. All proposals will be evaluated by the department in order to secure the best pricing.

Chief Edo reported to the Commission that Kerry Warren, the department's recruit currently attending the Fire Academy, was named to the high honor of Platoon Leader of the entire current Fire Academy training class. The Chief indicated that he was very proud of him.

Chief Edo said that 75 applicants were registered to take the 2018 Entry Level Firefighter written test scheduled for tomorrow night (March 21, 2018). However, due to the impending snowstorm, the test would be postponed to April 3, 2018 if JLHS was closed due to the weather. Applicants were being instructed to monitor the department's website for weather related updates.

The Chief discussed the department's responses to the recent series of snowstorms indicating that the EOC has been open and partially operating during a couple of the storms to help facilitate and coordinate with U.I. on power outages and other related issues.

Commissioners Stein and Smith made and seconded a motion to re-order the agenda to move Item VIII – New Business to the end of the agenda following Item XI – Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Unfinished Business:

None.

10. New Equipment:

None.

11. Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners:

Commissioner Stein noted that he recently was at the Fire Academy for Friends and Family Night of the current academy class. He indicated that Recruit Kerry Warren was introduced to the assembled group as the platoon leader of the current recruit class and made a presentation on behalf the class. Commissioner Stein indicated that he was very articulate and inspiring. He also indicated that he met with Recruit Warren later in the evening and was

impressed by his friendly and personable demeanor. Commissioner Stein noted that he overheard several members of the class talking about Recruit Warren. He is respected and well-liked by his classmates. He is clearly viewed as a mentoring figure by his classmates.

Commissioner Stanford wished to thank the department and apologize as well for the accidental trips of the medical alarm used by her husband. She indicated that it happened twice in the same day recently. She indicated that she was quite embarrassed by the department showing up while she was in her pajamas, but she was appreciative.

8. New Business:

a) Executive Session (Personnel Matter – **Matthew LaVecchia***)

Commissioners Stein and Brennan made and seconded a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter **regarding Matthew LaVecchia***. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 7:29.

The Commission invited Chief Edo, Assistant Chiefs Baker and Begley and City Attorney Jonathan Berchem into Executive Session at 7:44.

Chief Edo updated the Commission on the status of Mr. LaVecchia's arrest, noting that the criminal case is pending in Superior Court in Milford and a new court date had been scheduled.*

Commissioners Smith and Stanford made and seconded a motion to exit from Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter **regarding Matthew LaVecchia***. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 9:15. Commissioner Stein noted that no votes were taken while in Executive Session.

12. Adjournment:

Commissioners Smith and Weber made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:15 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Stein

*The language set forth in bold represents the amended portion of the March 20, 2018 minutes, as approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on April 30, 2019