

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Commissioner's Conference Room
At Fire Headquarters
Eastside Station
980 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, June 18, 2019**

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 19:39 hours. A quorum was present.

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

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

 Jeff Luciano, Union President of the Local 944, thanked Chairman McGrath for his support during the recently held golf fundraiser for Firefighter Brian Connolly who is battling cancer. The golf event raised over \$15,000. Mr. Luciano presented the Chairman with his sponsored hole cup flag and his tee sponsorship sign.

3. **Consideration of Minutes:**

 Regular Meeting – May 21, 2019.

Commissioners Riso and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the May 21, 2019, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **Communications:**

 Commissioner Smith reported that the Department received the following communications:

- i. A thank you card from Jennifer Longobardi and Shawn Brennan of Derby expressing their thanks and gratitude. Without the assistance of the department at Port Milford, they would have lost their boat.
- ii. The department received a check in the amount of \$250 from the Milford Lions Club.

Commissioners Stein and Smith made and seconded a motion to donate the \$250 check into the Good and Welfare Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Chairman's Report:**

None.

6. **Committees Reports:**

- a) Personnel Committee: Commissioner Stein had nothing to report.
- b) Maintenance & Equipment Committee: Commissioner Brennan had nothing to report.

7. **Chief's Report:**

Recruit Graduating – The 2 new recruits graduated at the top of their class. One of the recruits received the “Hard Charger Award.” Chief Edo expressed how proud he was of their performance at the Academy.

Budget – Chief Edo reported that he received an email from the Mayor on 6/5th informing him that all spending control measures were lifted as well as the hiring freeze as of July 1st.

Upcoming events – The Chief stated it was a busy time for the department with the upcoming events, i.e., the Milford Fireworks, Oyster Festival. He also said that West Haven had requested the use of Milford’s Gator.

Good and Welfare Account – The Chief reported that the account to date has \$5,500 not including the donation received tonight from the Lions Club.

8. **New Business:**

- a) Executive Session – Firefighter Raul Benavides-Espinal (Termination)

Attorney Daniel Hunsberger of Maurer & Associates introduced himself as the attorney representing Firefighter Benavides-Espinal. He requested a one-month continuance from the Commission to get up to speed on the file as he was just retained this afternoon and needs to obtain the file from the City Attorney’s office.

Commissioners Stein and Riso made and seconded a motion to table the Executive Session pertaining to the termination of Firefighter Raul Benavides-Espinal to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

None.

10. **New Equipment:**

None.

11. **Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners:**

Chairman McGrath apologized for the miscommunication in tonight's meeting.

12. **Adjournment:**

*Commissioners Riso and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:47.
Motion carried unanimously.*

Recorded by Diane Stein