

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Commissioners Conference Room at Fire Headquarters
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, October 19, 2010

Call to Order: Chairman Riso called the meeting to order at 1912 hours. A quorum was present.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Thomas Riso, John Healy, Richard Smith, Howard Stein, and William A. Brennan. Also present were Chief Louis A. LaVecchia, Assistant Chief Robert J. Healey, Assistant Chief Al Zingaro, Battalion Chief William Healey, and Union President Todd Ricci.

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

None.

3. Swearing In:

None.

4. Consideration of Minutes:

Regular Meeting - September 28, 2010

Chairman Riso noted one amendment was necessary on the minutes from the September 28th meeting, changing the name Chairman Healy to Chairman Riso.

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Commissioners Healy and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the September 28, 2010, regular meeting as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting - June 15, 2010

Commissioners Healy and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2010, regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Communications:

The Commissioners decided to hold any communications until Commissioner Craig was present.

6. Committee Reports:

Apparatus

Assistant Chief Zingaro reported that all apparatus are currently in service.

Awards Ceremony

Chairman Riso informed the Commissioners that there is an award ceremony coming up, and that dates were being looked at in November.

East Side Fire Station Building Committee

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Commissioner Healy reported to the Commissioners that the Building Committee had just finished a meeting. The Committee had approved the schematic design and floor plan. They were shown the pitched roof design by the architects. Commissioner Healy passed around to the Commissioners the floor plan and site plan for the new Station. He informed the Commissioners that the Committee would be meeting again November 23rd. They hope to be using the same contractor for the site clearance and the footings. The City expects to close on the property by the end of the month. Test borings have been completed. The environmental report has been completed. No major issues are anticipated. Commissioner Healy commented that the City has been very cooperative during this process. The present tenant on the property is on board to relocate in November.

Commissioner Craig informed Commissioner Healy that he had been contacted by a concerned citizen asking if Baxter Lane would be a “cut-through”. Chief LaVecchia assured him that Baxter wouldn’t be used as a cut through any more than it is now.

7. Chief’s Report

Asst. Supt of Apparatus Testing

Chief LaVecchia reported that Firefighter Joe Whitman will be promoted November 1st.

The Chief reported that the New Haven County Fire Commissioners Meeting would be held on October 20th in East Haven.

Personnel Issue

Commissioners Healy and Smith made and seconded a motion to enter executive session for personnel matters, inviting Chief LaVecchia and all Assistant Chiefs to attend. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 1933 hours.

The Board came out of executive session at 2016 hours.

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8. Unfinished Business

Entry Level Testing

The Chief reported that the entry level test is moving along. The swim test was held the week prior (October 9th), and that the fitness test starts this weekend and runs for two weekends.

He also informed the Commissioners that there were 201 candidates at the swim test, with 12 no-shows, and 30 candidates failed the test. There would be about 170 candidates at the fitness test, but that about 40 to 50 % fail the fitness test. The next step is the oral board for interviews. The Department hires an outside company to conduct the oral interviews, and all candidates who pass the fitness test will be interviewed. The oral board consists of a three-person panel, with one fire official from Milford and two fire officials from outside Milford.

Emergency Repair Funds

The Chief noted that although it was decided that a letter be sent to Mayor Richetelli regarding the funds, it would probably be best to bring it up to him around budget time.

9. New Business:

Assistant Chief Healey informed the Commissioners that the Department is holding a fundraiser for Sergeant Vitti on November 7th at St. Barbara's Church in Orange.

10. Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners:

None.

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11. Adjournment:

Commissioners Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 2017 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by C. Birney