

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, November 16, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 18:09 hours. A quorum was present.

Roll Call: In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Stein, Smith, Brennan, and Weber were present. Also, present were Chief Edo, Assistant Chief Fabrizi and Assistant City Attorney Debra Kelly.

Absent: Commissioner Riso and Commissioner Stanford.

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

None

- III. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting October 19, 2021

Commissioners Smith and Weber made and second a motion to accept the minutes of October 19, 2021. Motions carried unanimously.

- IV. **Communications:**

Commissioner Smith read from a letter from Annemarie and Ed Voccola expressing their thanks and gratefulness to members Lieutenant David Heenan, Lieutenant Herbert Staiger, Firefighter James Devico, Firefighter Justin Wetmore, and Firefighter James Connors for the response to their home in September.

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

Chairman McGrath congratulated and thanked William Laslett on his retirement this month after 25 years of service. Chairman McGrath read from a letter from Commissioner Greta Stanford tendering her resignation from the Board of Fire Commission. Chairman McGrath expressed the board's appreciation for her service to the Fire Department and Milford. He also wished the department a Happy Thanksgiving.

VI. **Committees Report:**

- a) Personnel Committee: Commissioner Stein stated the Personnel Committee has met three times since the last meeting to discuss the current vacancies. The committee have been discussing the vacant Assistant Chief position and the new procedures to the recruit hiring process. Six perspective candidates have been interviewed with several more pending the receipt of their background check information. Recommendations for recruit applicants will be made at the December meeting or a special meeting if necessary. Interviews for the Assistant Chief position will be held tentatively on December 9, with a recommendation at the December meeting or a special meeting.
- b) Maintenance & Equipment: Commissioner Brennan noted the Tower was out for inspection &/or repair of its ladder that is under warranty. The rest of the equipment is in good shape.
- c) Safety Committee Liaison: Commissioner Brennan stated that the minor issues that are brought up seem to be handled in a timely manner due to the many city members on the committee.

VII. **Chief's Report:**

Budget proposed – The first step in the budget submittal for fiscal year 2022-2023 has been presented to the Mayor and Finance Director. Chief Edo noted the substantial increase this year.

Capital budget – The Chief explained the capital budget submission consisted of roof repairs and paving at several station and Seeman's Lane. There was also a vehicle request for a new Quint to replace Quint 3 which is the oldest piece of apparatus. During the bonding process in February the Chief again will request a new quint.

Spare Apparatus – The transmission that is needed for Engine 2 (the old E4) currently has parts on back order due to shipping delays. Currently Engine 8 is the only spare. Chief Edo mentioned the phone call regarding discrepancies with the diagnosis of Tower 1 ladder.

VIII. **New Business:**

Commissioner Stein and Smith made and second a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the settlement of grievances 18-004 & 18-005. Motion carries unanimously.

Commissioner Stein requests the two chiefs and city attorney remain in attendance for the purpose of providing opinion or testimony. The board, Chief Edo, Assistant Chief Fabrizi and Assistant City Attorney Debra Kelly go into executive session at 18:19

IX. **Executive Session:**

Commissioner Stein and Smith make a motion to exit executive session for the purpose of discussing the settlement of grievances 18-004 & 18-005. Motion carries unanimously.

The board comes out of executive session at 19:18
Commissioner Stein noted no votes were taken during executive session.

Commissioner Brennan and Weber make and second a motion to authorize Assistant City Attorney Debra Kelly to enter a settlement agreement with regard to grievances 18-004 & 18-005. Motion carried. Voting is as follows:

Yes - Chairman McGrath

Abstain - Commissioner Stein

Yes - Commissioner Brennan

Yes - Commissioner Smith

Yes - Commissioner Weber

X. **Unfinished Business:**

None

XI. **New Equipment:**

None

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

XIII. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners Smith and Weber made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:20 Motion carried unanimously.

UNAPPROVED SUBJECT TO CORRECTION
Recorded by Gloria Gouse