

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting**  
**72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 18:35 hours. A quorum was present.

**Roll Call:** In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Howard Stein, Richard Smith, William Brennan, and Peter Smith were present. Also, present were Alderman Liaisons Michele Parente and Anthony Giannattasio, Chief Douglas A. Edo, Assistant Chief Anthony Fabrizi, and Assistant Chief Christopher Waiksnoris

**Absent:** Commissioner Thomas Riso and Commissioner Cassandra Soda

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

None

- III. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2023

Commissioner Stein abstained from voting as he was not in attendance at the March meeting.

*Commissioners P. Smith and R. Smith made and second a motion to accept the minutes of March 21, 2023. Motion carries with the forementioned abstention.*

- IV. **Communications:**

Commissioner R. Smith read a letter of thanks from City Clerk Karen Fortunati regarding the two times the department responded to her home. She appreciated the excellent care and professionalism received, noting how incredibly grateful she is to live in a city with such an extraordinary Fire Department.

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

Chairman McGrath stated he spoke with the crews regarding the moving of Quint 5 to headquarters. He thanks the department for understanding at this time. He had a meeting with the Chairman of the Police Commission regarding dispatch. The next step will be to put together an Ad hoc committee composed of fire and police, dates are pending.

Chairman McGrath thanked personnel for all the hard work with all the horrendous accidents that have been responded to. Commissioner P. Smith thanked the Chairman for the emails and updates of items happening in between the meetings.

VII. **Committee Reports:**

- a) Personnel Committee: Nothing to report.
- b) Maintenance Committee: Commissioner Brennan noted the vendor is hoping to expedite the repair of Quint 3. The wait is due to parts, and spares are being used. Chairman McGrath stated Quint 3 is out for repair and the vendor is optimistic the repair would be completed as quick as possible. Assistant Chief Fabrizi confirmed the vendor is optimistic the parts for the blown engine would be received in 30 – 45 days, however it could take up to 120 days. The goal is to have it done as quickly as possible. A small discussion was had regarding the engine repair.
- c) Safety Committee Liaison: Commissioner Brennan stated meeting concerns are being addressed. Chairman McGrath inquired about an update on the awards ceremony. Assistant Chief Fabrizi stated all pieces are in place, the venue is secured, office staff have been advised of duties. Everything is on track for June 14.

VIII. **Chiefs Report:**

Budget – A spending control memo was sent out by the Mayor’s office. Chief Edo noted the budget is set for 12 months; transfers are needed due to cost increases. A freeze on new hires is not possible, as the budget has 100 Firefighters, overtime is needed as vacancies are required to be filled.

New Truck Bid – The department is waiting for one more vendor to present specs. The bid will be then sent to replace Quint 3, which currently has the blown motor. Chairman McGrath questioned the time frame and when the bid would go out. Chief Edo stated he hoped to do so by the end of this month.

Recruits – All recruits are doing well, the training officer has been up to the academy frequently, most at the top of the class. He will forward the live training schedule to the Commissioner if they want to go watch.

Current Recruit test – The current application is open with a closing date of May 18, the goal is to have a list available by July. Commissioner McGrath inquired about the Lieutenant and Battalion Chief test. Chief Edo stated the written portion of the Lieutenant and Battalion Chief test has been complete. Nine firefighters have passed the Lieutenant and all four Captains have passed the BC test. The next phase is the assessment center then scores will be combined, and seniority points added. A list will be available by the next meeting. He suspects there to be 4 to 5 vacancies by July.

IX. **New Business:**

Chairman McGrath spoke of scraping the old engine sitting at Seemans Lane.

Commissioners Brennan and R. Smith made and second a motion to amend the agenda to add disposal of Quint 9 to New Business. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Fabrizi stated a mechanic was out to look at Quint 9 and stated cost to repair the quint would be too great and would be of no value to any other departments. He noted that Milford Auto Recycling have always provided the department with cars for training at a moment's notice, he suggested the donation of the quint go to Milford Auto Recycling. Assistant Chief Fabrizi stated as a department member for thirty years and previous Training Battalion Chief they have gone above and beyond for the department. Commissioner P. Smith questioned the value of the scrap. Assistant Chief Fabrizi wasn't aware of the scrap value. He stated the services they have provided for decades for the department are worth more than any scrap value. Commissioner P. Smith stated he would not be comfortable with the donation without knowing the scrap value.

Commissioners Stein and Brennan made and second a motion to table the subject of the disposal of Quint 9 to next month until the scrap value can be obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. **Unfinished Business:**

None

X. **New Equipment:**

None

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

Commissioner Brennan stated the reports received from department members are very good and have been getting better and better. Chairman McGrath stated if any Commissioners have questions regarding reports, they can be asked after the Chief's Report. Commissioner P. Smith agreed the reports are very informative and helpful in understanding the department.

XII. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners R. Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 18:52 Motion carried unanimously.