

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Commissioner's Conference Room
At Fire Headquarters
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, January 16, 2018**

1. **Call to Order:** Chief Edo called the meeting to order at 7:15 hours. A quorum was present.

Roll Call: Commissioners McGrath, Smith, Stein, Brennan, Stanford, Riso and Weber were present. Also, present was Chief Douglas Edo and Assistant Chiefs Gary Baker and Bernie Begley.

2. **Election of Officers:**

Commissioners Riso and Stanford made and seconded a motion nominating Commissioners McGrath, Stein and Smith as Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary, respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McGrath assumed control of the regularly scheduled meeting.

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

A.J. Murphy, Secretary of Local 944, gave a summary of the contributions the members of the Local 944 have made over the past year to the City while off duty. This included many events sponsored within the City of Milford. Such events include the James Matioli 5K run in honor of James who lost his life in Sandy Hook. The Local also contributed \$5,000 to the Local 4864 in Texas over the summer to families hit hard by Hurricane Harvey. During Oysterfest, the Dunk Tank raised \$6,200 for the Bridgeport Burn Center. This year the IAFF was the largest contributor to MDA with \$10,338.51 raised through Fill the Boot. The Toys for Tots program supports around 300 families and the local spends between \$15,000-\$20,000 on toys, rentals, etc. Each family receives a large bag that generally holds 20 plus toys. The local has a proud tradition of supporting Milford and looks forward to continually working hard on and off the clock for Milford. Finally, Secretary Murphy thanked Chairman McGrath for the Dunkin Donuts gift cards.

Jeff Luciano introduced himself to the Commission. He is the new Union President. He indicated to the Board that A.J Murphy was continuing as Secretary. He further indicated that Dave Heenan was Vice-President and Jeff Maurutis was the Treasure. President Luciano thanked the Commission for their continued support.

Chairman McGrath thanked the Union on behalf of the Commission for their continuous work on and off duty.

4. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – December 19, 2017

Commissioners Riso and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the December 19, 2017, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Communications:**

Commissioner Smith reported that the Department received the following communications:

- i. An email from Lynn King to Chief Edo thanking the department for their support and help on January 14th at the funeral of Dave King.
- ii. An email to Doug Edo extending a thank you from the Fairfield Asst. Chief for the canteen truck on December 26th at a call in Fairfield during extreme weather conditions.
- iii. A thank you card from JFK school to the Milford Fire Dept. for volunteering to be readers in their “Read Across America” day to Pre-K.
- iv. A thank you card from the Connecticut Burn Care Foundation, Inc. in honor of the distinguished members of the Milford Fire Department which was gifted by William Healey.
- v. A holiday card from Allergy Asthma & Immunology, LLC with a \$50 donation to the Milford Fire Department.

Commissioners Stein and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the above-referenced donations and deposit them into the “good and welfare” fund. Motion carried unanimously

6. **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman McGrath hoped everyone had a great Holiday and thanked the Commission for their vote of confidence.

7. **Committees Reports:**

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

8. **Chief's Report:**

Budget: Chief Edo indicated that the department’s budget will be presented on to the Board of Finance on February 12 and thereafter to the Board of Alderman.

Commissioner Riso asked where the department was regarding the budget. The Chief reported that they are right on target for the fiscal year as it stands right now.

Commissioner Stanford asked if there was new equipment in the budget. The Chief responded that there is a new fire truck and ambulance that is in proposed city bonding package. Chairman McGrath said that there is ongoing dialog with the City regarding department equipment needs. The city is aware of the strong need for future equipment.

New Recruits: The Chief indicated that there were 2 candidates remaining on the hiring list. Both applicants were offered positions. One accepted and one took a position elsewhere and declined. The recruit will begin in January and will go to the Academy in February.

2018 Recruit Testing: The department's hiring list is exhausted and the Chief will be sending out announcements that the department is intending to hire. Applications should be ready to send out in February

9. **New Business:**

None.

10. **Unfinished Business:**

None.

11. **New Equipment:**

Chief Edo explained that the new Squad had an onboard computer problem. There was a mother board problem that was covered by the warranty. There are still punch list items that the manufacture has to address. That will be done shortly.

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

Commissioner Riso ask for more information about the lack of manpower mentioned in the dispatch report. Chief Edo responded that there are a lack of full time dispatchers. They have attempted to hire some of the per diems only to find that they have taken other positions in places that have higher compensation. They department is currently looking to hire for the positions together with the Police Department.

Commissioner Stanford asked the date of the presentation to the Board of Alderman. Chief Edo didn't have a date yet but would report back to the Commission.

13. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:34 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Stein