

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
At Eastside Station
980 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT
Tuesday, November 17, 2020

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 19:15 hours. A quorum was present.

Roll Call: In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Smith, Stein, Weber and Brennan were present. Also, present were Chief Edo and Assistant Chiefs Begley and Fabrizi.

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

None

3. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – October 20, 2020

Commissioners Weber and Smith made and second a motion to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2020 Regular Meeting as presented. Motions carried unanimously.

4. **Communications:**

Commissioner Smith reported that the Department received the following communications:

i Thank you letters from the students in Mrs. Ryczer's first grade class at Turkey Hill School to the Milford Firefighters to show their appreciation for all that they do.

5. **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman McGrath asked the Commissioners to make note of the upcoming 2021 Commissioners' Meeting schedule in their packet. He also stated that there may not be an upcoming December meeting if the City shuts down as a result of COVID.

6. **Committees Reports:**

- a) Personnel Committee: None
- b) Maintenance & Equipment None

7. **Chief's Report:**

20/21 Meeting Schedule - Copy of the proposed meeting schedule for 2021 was included in each Commissioners packet.

Budget Proposed - The Chief reported that the department submitted its 2021 Budget. No formal meeting has been set-up yet. The Chief noted that the budget request was a 4.6% increase over the present budget. He noted that the present budget was a flat budget and that this request was still trying to “catch-up” for the last few flat budgets as department liabilities have increased in the last few years while the budgets have remained flat.

Capital Budget – The department put forward a request for capital improvements to existing physical structures including a roof at Seaman’s Lane as well as ramps and sidewalks at the Westside Station. Also, budgeted was a new HVAC unit.

Recruit Test – The Chief is looking for authorization to go forward to begin the testing process. The last test was 2 years ago. The Chief would like the new list in place to have potential recruits ready for the anticipated August 2021 class.

New Engine 7 – Chief reported that the new engine is currently at the dealership in Rhode Island. The dealer is working on the punch list. Its anticipated that the new engine should be in town next week and be in service by the 2nd or 3rd week in December.

Spare Apparatus – The Chief reported that both spare engines are out of service and it doesn’t seem prudent to spend the money that would be necessary to make these trucks service ready. Once the new Engine 7 is in place next month, the old Engine 7 will be the only usable spare. This is still concerning to the extent that it is not usual to have multiple pieces of apparatus out of service at any given time. To that end, the Chief indicated that discussions were had with the vendor currently building the new Engine 7 about the possibility of getting another similar truck build in a timely fashion. The Chief commented that the vendor could deliver a second engine quicker and knock 110 days off the built and hold the price the same as the new Engine 7. The Chief is going to seek approval of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to see if this can be accomplished.

Commissioners Brennan and Smith made and second a motion to accept the Board of Fire Commissioners 2021 Meeting Schedule. Motions carried unanimously.

Chairman McGrath indicated that the Chief’s request to begin the next Recruitment Testing process will be referred to the Personnel Sub-Committee, which will report to the full Board at the December meeting.

8. **New Business:**

None.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

Chairman McGrath asked if there was any update on the heating issue with the Eastside Station. Asst. Chief Fabrizi indicated that he has not heard anything further from Chris Saley from the City DOT but would follow up with him ASAP.

10. **New Equipment:**

The Chairman noted that the department has received a new Polaris ATV. It will be used to move Marine 3.

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

None.

12. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners Smith and Brennan made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:35 Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Stein