

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting  
Commissioner's Conference Room  
At Fire Headquarters  
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT  
Tuesday, December 17, 2019**

1.     **Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 19:16 hours.  
A quorum was present.

**Roll Call:** In addition to the Chairman, Commissioners Riso, Smith, Stein, and Stanford were present. Commissioner Brennan was unable to attend the meeting. Commissioner Weber was at another commitment and was not sure if he would make the meeting. Also present was Chief Edo and Assistant Chief Begley. Michelle Parente from the Board of Alderman was also in attendance.

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

None.

3.     **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – November 19, 2019

*Commissioners Riso and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the November 19, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously*

4.     **Communications:**

Commissioner Smith reported that the Department received the following communications:

- i.       An email from Richard Molneux of Naugatuck expressing his thanks to the Milford Fire Dept. for saving his life in 2008 on the Devon Bridge and that he has recently become an EMT. Mayor Ben Blake responded to Mr. Molneux congratulating him on his success as an EMT and thanked him for his kind note recognizing the emergency and public safety professionals of Milford.
- ii.      A note to Chief Edo and a check in the amount of \$50 from the Nosal family expressing their appreciation to the department for each time they come to assist them. They indicated that the enclosed check is a token of their appreciation.

*Commissioners Stein and Riso made and seconded a motion to deposit the check into the Good and Welfare Fund. Motion carried unanimously*

5. **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman McGrath stated that Commissioner Brennan recently fell and had to use the department's services. He was not up to attending tonight's meeting and will extend his thanks to the department at the next meeting.

Chairman McGrath wished the union well with their efforts for the Toys for Tots Holiday Toy Drive and thanked them for their commitment to the children in the community.

Chairman McGrath stated that Chief Edo submitted to the City Clerk the Board of Fire Commissioners monthly meeting dates for 2020. He asked the Commissioners to review the dates and mark their calendars accordingly.

Chairman McGrath stated that he had a communication from Battalion Chief Ron Wetmore requesting permission for the Milford Fire Department to sponsor the annual James Matioli 5K run on March 28, 2020.

*Commissioners Smith and Riso made and seconded a motion to permit the Milford Fire Department's request to conduct its annual James Matioli 5K run on March 28, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.*

6. **Committees Reports:**

None.

7. **Chief's Report:**

Budget Package – The Chief reported that he submitted a 4% increase overall and met with the Mayor. Following that meeting, an overall budget increase of 2% would be submitted to the Board of Aldermen. The department gained some money in the wages account and that the IT accounts have been consolidated City wide.

Retirement dinner – Chief Edo stated it was a great turnout. The retirees had a combined service of 147 years. He thanked Chairman McGrath and Commissioner Stanford for their attendance.

New Apparatus –New Car 4 is at the vendor and should arrive before the end of the year. The Chief has been approved to put together the Department's bid request for the new Engine which is expected to be part of the February bonding package subject to the financing being approved. Since it takes the better part of a year to build, this early jump on the paperwork will facilitate an earlier delivery for a new engine. Chairman McGrath expressed thanks to the Mayor for being able to move the clock up 2 months.

Recruits – The 2 recruits graduated from the Fire Academy on 12/6/2019. Asst. Chief Begley and Mayor Blake were in attendance. Chief Edo was unable to attend. The recruits are starting their shifts on December 21<sup>st</sup> and will both be on Engine 4. Commissioner Riso inquired how the department stood with personnel. Chief Edo states that they were down 7 positions with the recent retirees and personnel injuries.

Chief Edo requested permission to renew the Nelson ambulance contract pursuant to the auto renewal clause in the contract and pursuant to the same terms and conditions for the next two years.

Commissioners Riso and Smith made and seconded a motion to permit the Milford Fire Department's request to renew the Nelson ambulance contract with the same terms and conditions for two years. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **New Business:**

None.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

None.

10. **New Equipment:**

Chairman McGrath reiterated that the new Car 4 (pickup truck) will be in service the start of the new year.

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

Commissioner Stein wanted to thank the Chief and the Union for finalizing their MOU pertaining to the educational stipends that were not paid to several department members due to their failure to file the necessary paperwork with the department to receive their stipends. Commissioner Stein noted that this was a matter brought before the Board on a grievance which was subsequently denied. Commissioner Stein added that he was pleased that the department and the union were able to reach an understanding.

Commissioner Smith wished everyone a happy holiday and invited the Commissioners to the Seven Seas.

Chairman McGrath wished the fire department, staff and the Commission a happy and safe holiday.

12. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners Smith and Riso made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:33. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Stein