

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting Commissioners' Conference Room  
at Fire Headquarters  
72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT  
Tuesday, January 20, 2015**

1.     **Call to Order**: Chief Edo called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours. A quorum was present.

**Roll Call**: Commissioners Tom Riso, Kevin McGrath, Howard Stein, Richard Smith, Joseph Weber and William A. Brennan. Also, present were Chief Douglas Edo and Assistant Chief Gary Baker.

2.     **Election of Officers**:  
          *Chairman Riso and Commissioner Weber made and seconded a motion nominating Commissioner McGrath as Board Chairman, Commissioner Stein as Vice-Chairman and Commissioner Smith as Board Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.*

At 19:05 newly inducted Chairman McGrath takes control of the meeting. He thanks former Chairman Riso for his many years of dedicated and tireless service as Board Chairman and hopes that he can fill his shoes. Commissioner Riso comments that he had a wonderful mentor in former Commissioner John (Jack) Healy, Sr. who he patterned himself after as Board Chairman. He also expressed what a great pleasure it was presiding over a cohesive board and feels that the Department is in great hands under the leadership of Chief Edo.

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

None.

4.     **Consideration of Minutes**:

Regular Meeting – December 16, 2014

*Commissioners Riso and Smith made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the December 16, 2014, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

5.     **Communications**:

a.     Email to Chief Edo from Gordan Stewart of the East Haven Fire Department thanking the Milford Fire Department for their medical assistance rendered to his brother.

b.     Email to Mayor Ben Blake from Jennifer Caserta expressing thanks to Engine 7 and the Milford Fire Department in their quick response to her home when her hard wired smoke detectors went off.

## 6. **Committee Reports:**

### Entry-Level Testing Sub-Committee:

Chairman McGrath reported that the sub-committee consisting of himself, Commissioners Stein and Weber finalized the entry level application with the exception of the physical fitness portion of the application. The City Attorneys have reviewed and approved the application. Chairman McGrath further indicated that the physical fitness portion of the application is still incomplete and will require additional subcommittee meetings. He is hopeful that it will be completed by March.

Commissioner Brennan remarked that the sub-committee did a phenomenal job on the document.

Commissioner Stein introduced 2 revisions on the Entry Level Firefighter Application, as follows:

- (1) Page 1 - Required at time of Application - moving Valid EMT card onto a separate line and;
- (2) Page 1 - Required at time of Hire - adding a line to include Valid EMT card.

Also, Commissioner Weber questioned whether the word "abnormal" was the proper word in Job Requirements - Item 5.

*Motion to approve the Entry Level Firefighter Application 2015 with the revisions introduced by Commissioner Stein was made and seconded by Commissioners Brennan and Smith. Motion carried unanimously.*

## 7. **Chief's Report:**

Chief Edo reported that the new Quint has been painted and should be ready to be delivered by the end of February. The dept. still has to go out and inspect the truck prior to delivery.

Chief Edo reported that Engine 5 and Engine 3 have been renamed to Quint 5 and Quint 3 and that the rescue trucks have been renamed Medic 1 and Medic 2.

Chief Edo reported that the Budget is completed and will be presented to the Board of Finance on 2/17/2015.

Chief Edo informed the Commission that the 4 new recruits' paperwork is complete. Their first day on the job will be 1/26/2015. They will have in-house training for 2 weeks and will begin the Fire Academy on 2/10/15. Their expected graduation date is 5/21/15. Chief Edo also commented that these new hires will bring the dept. to full staff for the first time in 5-6 years.

Chief Edo reported that he is the City Emergency Management Director. The Governor ordered all state no freeze shelters be opened. The shelters were opened for 6 days.

Chief Edo reported ongoing discussion with regard to C-MED. Nothing new to report. Still talking with Southwest C-MED.

Chief Edo reported that Marine 1 is out of service. Assistant Chief Baker commented that there was a crack in the power head. It was determined that it could be repaired more cost effectively in-house. In response to a question from Commissioner Brennan, Assistant Chief Baker indicated that the boat would have to be repowered sometime in the near future. He further indicated that there may be grant money available for the repowering and, also, for enhanced rescue electronics.

8. **New Business:**

Chairman McGrath made reference to the report from Asst. Chief/Fire Marshall Robert Healey and Senior Fire Inspector Anthony Fino. He recommended that all Commissioners should review the report as it deals with fire inspection requirements as mandated by CT State Law.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

None.

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

Commissioner Stein wanted to thank Captain Holinko and Engine 1 for their diligence in responding to his home when his CO detectors were going off and their efforts in locating the leak and clearing the house of CO.

Commissioner Riso also wanted to extend a thank you to Captain Brotherton and Engine 1 for their medical response and compassion for his 94 year old mother-in-law who was taken from her home to the hospital.

11. **Adjournment:**

Commissioners Smith and McGrath made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 19:29 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

At 19:30 Commissioner Stein made a motion to reopen the meeting and return to Item 5 (Communications) seconded by Chairman McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Smith indicated that the Department had received a thank you card with a \$50 donation enclosed from Dr.Kwittken of The Allergy Asthma & Immunology, LLC to be used by the Dept. as it sees fit.

Commissioner Stein and Chairman McGrath made and seconded a motion to deposit the aforementioned donation into the Good and Welfare Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners Smith and Weber made and seconded a motion to re-adjourn at 19:32 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Stein.