

**Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting**  
**72 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT**  
**Tuesday, May 31, 2022**

- 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 Stein, Riso, R. Smith, Brennan, P. Smith, and Soda were present. Also present was Chief Edo, Assistant Chief Fabrizi, Assistant Chief Waiksnoris Alderman Liaison Michele Parente and Alderman Liaison Anthony Giannattasio.

**Absent:** None

- II. **Public Statements limited to the function of the Board of Fire Commissioners:**  
None

- III. **Consideration of Minutes:**

Regular Meeting Correct Minutes – April 19, 2022

*Commissioners R. Smith and P. Smith made and second a motion to accept the minutes of April 19, 2022. Motions carried unanimously.*

- IV. **Communications:**

Commissioner R. Smith read several correspondences:

1. A thank you from Stratford Fire Chief Brian Lampart for the mutual aid support received with the large fire in April.
2. A thank you from Frank Colby for the care he received during a medical emergency at his home on May 15.

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

Chairman McGrath wished the board and department a Happy Memorial Day, he also thanked all members that are in the armed services. The eight graduates have started at the department, the graduation was this past week and Chairman McGrath noted recruit Jake Burwell received the Bill Deford physical fitness award. He extended thanks to Battalion Chief Christopher Zak and Captain Martin Halprin of the training division for their preparation for this crew. There has been channels of communication open regarding dispatch, Chairman McGrath

referred to Assistant Chief Fabrizi to explain further. Assistant Chief Fabrizi explained if any issues arise due to faulty software or as crews are dispatched a form can be submitted by the shift commander. He further explained himself and Assistant Chief Waiksnoris will see what as its populated and be able to review and discuss with the police or act upon it whatever manner is deemed fit to correct the issue. He noted some issues may be harder to correct as the Central Square CAD software issues are ongoing. Assistant chief Waiksnoris had a meeting with them and the board will be updated as progress moves forward. Assistant Chief Fabrizi noted giving personnel the ability to report such issues was an important step in allowing the department to review and act upon them and this has been implemented. Commissioner McGrath thanked Assistant Chief Fabrizi for the legwork that's been involved as fire dispatch is now located at pd. Chairman McGrath stated that he plans to meet with the chiefs to discuss a recognition ceremony as Covid has delayed the process.

#### **VI. Committees Report:**

- a) Personnel Committee: none
- b) Maintenance & Equipment: none
- c) Safety Committee Liaison: Commissioner Brennan stated the safety committee meet and discussed apparatus maintenance and scheduling. Storage of apparatus and the exhaust system at Seemans Lane. Headlight issues seem to be a manufacturer problem, and crews need to be careful until rectified. Tower 1 is still out of service pending funding to repair items needed to pass the annual inspection. He stated spare apparatus is just that, if it was new, it would be first in line. Commissioner Brennan informed the board about the outdated foam system on Engine 7.

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

Budget – Chief Edo stated the budget has been submitted and approved by the Board of Alderman. A \$10,000 loss was noted in the fuel account, which is not concerning as the city does have an energy reserve, the department has asked permission to use it already this year as diesel is extremely high.

Recruits – Eight recruits have graduated and are receiving training at Seemans Lane. Jake Burwell was head of the class for Milford. Chief Edo noted that every year that Milford is represented the instructors rave about Milford recruits. He stated this had to do with the hiring process.

Class #70 Academy – The upcoming class (#70) scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup> may have a lottery system implemented to attend. He further explained that due to the lottery the number of vacancies may not be filled.

Current Recruit test – The chief was impressed with the diversity of the applicants for the test this year. The goal is to have at least half of the 146 applicants who took the written portion pass and move on to the physical portion. Chairman McGrath inquired about the timeline of testing and inquired about the written test results. Chief Edo explained the test results should be received by Friday. The MPAT will tentatively run in June. The oral interviews and commission interviews would be done right after. One issue would be that the background

checks would not be done in time. He noted the Fire Academy deadline is August 1, an

option may be to inform recruits that the offer is pending the background findings. If he can fast track the police report and social media investigations he will have a better idea who will move forward. Chairman McGrath stated that due to the tight timeframe the board would be hearing from him within the next few weeks regarding dates.

EMS note – Chief Edo stated he wanted to recognize the efforts of Acting EMS Captain Patrick McGee and Firefighter Michael Bahler. He noted Firefighter M. Bahler took the initiative to create pediatric ALS bags through Acting EMS Captain P. McGee.

**VIII. New Business:**

- a) Grievance 22-01 Step 2
- b) Grievance 22-02 Step 2
- c) Grievance 22-03 Step 2

Commissioner Stein stated legal opinion is necessary to effectively resolve these grievances.

Commissioner Stein and Brennan made and second a motion to deny Grievances 22-01, 22-02 & 22-03, to allow parties to seek a binding legal opinion. Motion carried unanimously.

**IX. Unfinished Business:** None

- X. **New Equipment:** Chairman McGrath requested an update on the new Medic truck. Chief Edo confirmed the new Medic 3 is in service.

**XI. Comments and Concerns of the Commissioners:** None

**XII. Adjournment:**

Commissioners R. Smith and P. Smith made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 18:55 Motion carried unanimously.