



James Krupienski
Acting Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

1485 Main Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Board of Fire Commissioners

January 12, 2023



Brian Whalen
Frank L. DeMaio
Kent E. Stoddard, Jr.
Fire Commissioners

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING Minutes

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TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT
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TOWN CLERK

- I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Whalen. Meeting began with Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.
- II. **Attendance** – Chairman Brian Whalen, Commissioner, Kent Stoddard, Chief Jeff Trommer, Assistant Chief Lapierre, Deputy Chief Regina, Deputy Chief Stegmaier, Deputy Chief Nesklada, Council Liaison Manke.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve the December 8, 2022 and January 4, 2023 minutes, Chairman Whalen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Public Participation** – None.
- V. **Communications**- Chairman Whalen went over the monthly reports for December. Recently promoted Jordan Stergakis was recognized for being promoted to Captain of Fire Prevention. A motion to accept communications was made by Commissioner Stoddard and seconded by Chairman Whalen. Motion passed unanimously.
- VI. **Ledger Status** – Ledger status appears to be in good shape We are half way through the year and ledger status shows 50 percent usage. Motion to approve ledger was made by Commissioner Stoddard and seconded by Chairman Whalen. Motion passed unanimously.
- VII. **Old Business** –
 - Radio System Update- Chief Trommer gave update. The Town Council has approved the project to move forward and the Town Manager has signed off on it. Pleased to have it approved and on its way. Thank you to all Town staff that has made this happen.
 - Truck 2 Update – Deputy Chief Nesklada gave an update. Moving along well. Inspection should take place February 7th through the 9th. Once inspection takes place truck should be shipped to Firematic. We should have truck in March. Everyone needs to be trained on truck. Hopefully online in May.

- Grant Update – Assistant Chief Lapierre gave update. We were once again unsuccessful with the radio grant. No other grants have been rewarded at this time. Will meet with Sonya to figure out other options for radio grants. Will not be applying for same grant again.
- Space Needs – Chief Trommer gave an update. A memo has been put together for all the space needs for all companies in priority order. Would like Board of Fire Commission to review it and then forward to the Acting Town Manager to review with the Town Council. Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to forward memo to Acting Town Manager, Chairman Whalen seconded, motion passed unanimously. Commission needs to do a memo stating they would like a building committee formed for Company 4.
- Tablets and Alpine Software – Deputy Chief Regina gave an update. New system is ready to use. Waiting on virtual machines to be installed in each of the firehouses by IT.
- RFP Update – Chief Trommer gave update. Need to review the companies that submitted proposals. Will review and make a decision on what company to use.
- Assistant Fire Marshal - Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to appointment John Hoffmann to the position of Assistant Fire Marshall. Chairman Whalen seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business –

- Next Year’s meeting schedule – Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to accept next year’s meeting schedule as presented. Chairman Whalen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Chief Evaluations – Self evaluations have gone out to Chiefs. Will meet in February to cover.

IX. Public Participation – Chief Trommer – Met with Rob Hillman and Hermas Lavoy from the Highway Garage about upcoming vehicle replacement. Want to have discussions on this as part of the upcoming budget season with the Finance Director as we have a lot coming up in the next five years. The building times for these vehicles are three years right now so if we wait until they are due we will be behind three years. Need to stick to a twenty year replacement plan, A list has been put together to discuss. Also congratulated John Hoffmann on his new position.

A Recruitment Retention meeting was held with Deputy Chief Stegmaier and his staff. A lot of good things planned for this year coming up. Working hard to recruit new members. Excellent ideas.

Deputy Chief Regina congratulated John Hoffmann on his appointment and gave an update on training. There will be a Hazmat presentation at the high school. We have other departments attending this presentation from surrounding towns. Will continue to work with surrounding towns in hopes of other towns inviting us to training in their towns to cut down on expenses.

Town Council Liaison Manke - Will help with the RFP selection.

X. Commissioners Remarks - Commissioner Stoddard congratulated John Hoffmann and welcomed him. Appreciate all that is going on with training.

Chairman Whalen wished everyone a happy safe new year. Department is being well run to give the Town of Newington great protection.

XI. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Stoddard, seconded by Chairman Whalen. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sherri Leghorn, Fire Department Secretary