



James Krupienski
Acting Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

1485 Main Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Board of Fire Commissioners

February 9, 2023



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

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING Minutes

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- I. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:15PM by Chairman Whalen. Meeting began with Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.
- II. **Attendance** – Chairman Brian Whalen, Commissioner, Kent Stoddard, Commissioner Frank DeMaio, Chief Jeff Trommer, Assistant Chief Lapierre, Deputy Chief Stegmaier, Deputy Chief Nesklada, Council Liaison Manke.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023 minutes, Chairman Whalen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Public Participation** – None
- V. **Communications**- Commissioner Stoddard went over the monthly reports for January. Recently promoted Line Lieutenants Steve Spencer and Jeff Fago were recognized. Also recognized for promotions were Roman Castro, Lieutenant, Buildings and Apparatus Division, Tym Sullivan, Lieutenant, Safety Division, and Martin Ball, Lieutenant, Personnel Division. 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. 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, nothing new to report.
 - Truck 2 Update – Deputy Chief Nesklada gave an update. Just returned from trip to see new truck and have the final inspection. Trip went well. Truck should be delivered to Firematic in the next few weeks. Most of the equipment for new truck has come in. Training is set up for members of the department for the end of the month.
 - Grant Update – Assistant Chief Lapierre gave update. Working with Sonya for a grant for thermal imaging. Grant is ready to be submitted. This is a new product that just came out. Still waiting on Saver grant.

Looks positive, was asked some questions from grant provider on it. This grant is for an electric sign for in front of Company 1 to use for recruitment.

- Space Needs – A motion was made by Commissioner Stoddard and 2nd by Chairman Whalen to submit a request to the Town Council to form a building committee for the replacement of Company 4. Motion passed unanimously. Council Liaison Manke advised that the Standing Building Committee has not yet been formed by the Town Council.
- Tablets and Alpine Software – Testing continues, training has been started. Continues to move in a positive direction.
- RFP Update – Commission Stoddard made a motion to contract First Recovery USA for the Fire Department collection services. This contract will be a twelve month trail and will be reviewed ninety days prior to expiration. Chairman Whalen 2nd motion and it passed unanimously.
- Chief Evaluations – All Chief evaluations have been received. The Commission will review them and then sit down and go over with the Chief's.

VIII. **New Business** –

- Replacement of Per Diem Fire Inspector – Fire Marshal Zordan requested that a replacement for John Hoffman be hired. An eligibility list has been made based off of the last hiring process for Assistant Fire Marshal and John Soalowski is next on the list for hire. Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to hire John Soalowski for Per Diem Fire Inspector. Motion was seconded by Chairman Whalen. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Public Participation – Town Council Liaison Manke – At the next Town Council meeting the dedication will be on the agenda for the Veterans Fire Fighters Association to have Maple Hill Avenue to Robbins Avenue dedicated to them.

X. Commissioners Remarks – Commissioner DeMaio will be attendance next Tuesday for the Town Council meeting.

Commissioner Stoddard – Started reviewing the Chief evaluations and is very impressed with what he has read. Appreciate all they do as volunteers.

Chairman Whalen – Amazing trip to see the new truck at Pierce Manufacturing. Would like to invite the Town Council and anyone else that is interested in seeing the new truck at a date to be determined in the near future. Next Board of Fire Commissioners meeting will be March 16th.

XI. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Stoddard, seconded by Chairman Whalen. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sherri Leghorn, Fire Department Secretary