



TOWN OF NEWINGTON

1485 Main Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Board of Fire Commissioners



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

October 12, 2023

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Minutes

- 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, Commissioners Frank DeMaio and Kent Stoddard, Chief Jeff Trommer, Deputy Chief Regina, Deputy Chief Stegmaier, Council Liaison Tim Manke.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner DeMaio made a motion to approve the September 14, 2023 and October 5, 2023 minutes, Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Public Participation** - None
- V. **Communications**- Commissioner DeMaio went over the monthly reports for September. Promotions – Ed Patz has been promoted to Training Lieutenant. Chairman Whalen read a letter into the record from Fire Marshal Zordan in recognition of Assistant Fire Marshal John Hoffman. He has worked very hard to bring the Fire Marshal’s office back from being very behind on inspections to being almost back to where they should be. Excellent job by Assistant Fire Marshal John Hoffman.
- VI. **Ledger Status** – Looks good, only concern would be to make sure all technical supplies and technical equipment are purchased. Motion made by Commissioner Stoddard to accept the ledger status, seconded by Commissioner DeMaio, motion passed unanimously.
- VII. **Old Business** –
 - Radio System Update- Chief Trommer, continues to be moving in the right direction. New dispatch console has been tested and approved; one station will be installed next week for training. Installs for radios scheduled for the middle of November. Hoping for January or February to tentatively be online.
 - Grant Update – Chief Trommer, all approvals from the Town have been received for the digital sign just waiting on FEMA to get the funds.

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John O. Hoffman
Town Clerk

- Tablets and Alpine Software – Chief Regina, Transitioned over as of October 1st. Background work still being done. MDT's coming shortly.
- Autism Fund Raising – Chief Stegmaier, events continue.
- Modifications to Rules and Regulations – Special meeting set for October 19, 2023.
- Future Planning for New Apparatus – Chief Trommer, needs to be part of next years budget discussion with the Town Council. Two trucks are coming up quickly, both due in 2026.

VIII. New Business –

- Engine 5 – Chief Trommer, Highway Department is working on stripping apparatus. When they are done it will go up for sale, letter will go to the Commission when this is ready to take place.
- Inspections – Annual event. Inspections will be done November 14, 2023.
- Harassment Policy - For discussion purposes, Fire Department to adopt all personnel policies of the Town. Currently do go by them but are not documented. Need to add them to the Rules and Regulations of the department. Also need to establish a policy for complaints made by members.
- Motion made by Commissioner Stoddard to amend agenda and add Proclamations to New Business, 2nd by Commissioner DeMaio, motion passed unanimously. When someone retires after 25 years would like to have a proclamation like the Town Council does.

IX. Public Participation

Tim Manke – Asked about billing for services, would like to give the Town Council an update. Will get answers for him.

Chief Regina – All events going on with the Department can be found in the Responder app.

X. Commissioners Remarks - Commissioner Stoddard, so much is being accomplished in the Department. Very proud to be a Commissioner of the Department. Chief Regina commented that many towns are reaching out to use our training tower.

Commissioner DeMaio –impressed with how many members participated in the department open house. Fantastic job, keep up the good work.

Chairman Whalen – where we were in the past and where we are now is night and day. Thank you to everyone.

XI. Executive Session

A. **CGS 1-200(6)(B) Pending Litigation – Update on final investigative report Motion by Chairman Whalen, seconded by Commissioner DeMaio, motion passed unanimously.**

RESOLVED, That the Newington Fire Commission, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(B) hereby moves to go into Executive Session, and invites Commissioner Kent Stoddard, Commissioner Frank DeMaio, Fire Chief Jeffrey Trommer and Attorney Anthony Palermo to discuss an update on a final investigation report.

XI. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 10:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sherri Leghorn, Fire Department Secretary