

Town of North Branford Board of Fire Commissioners

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING, COMPANY #3

JUNE 4, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Civitello called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Joseph Civitello, Vice Chairman Ed Prunier and Commissioners Kenneth Ash, Andrew Campion and Anthony DellaCamera.

OTHERS: Officers: Fire Chief William Seward, III, Deputy Chiefs Anthony Esposito and Robert Colangelo, Deputy Fire Marshal John O'Brien, Captains Kevin Lyon and Ken Neubig, and Lieutenants Jason Conway and John Rossotto. **OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:** Mayor Anthony Candelora, Council liaison.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Deputy Chief Esposito thanked those who participated in the Memorial Day parade.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Commissioner Campion made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the Board approves the Minutes of the April 23, 2015 Special Meeting. On roll call vote, four voted in favor and there was one abstention by Commissioner DellaCamera due to his absence from that meeting. Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the BOFC approve the Minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting. On roll call vote, three in favor and Vice-Chairman Prunier and Commissioner Ash abstained due to their absence.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: A notice was received regarding an Annual Evergreen Woods Family Carnival to be held on June 20th from 12 to 3 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the BOFC amend the Agenda in order to discuss an Eagle Scout project. On roll call vote, all in favor. Colton Brown, an Eagle Scout, along with his mother, Amy Brown, attended the meeting to ask permission from the Board for approval of his project to number houses in the Northford side of town. He explained that he would send a letter to those houses that aren't numbered correctly and ask if he could put their house numbers on their mailboxes which would make it easier for responders to find their home in an emergency. After some discussion, Vice-Chairman Prunier made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the Board approve the Eagle Scout project consisting of numbering the houses in Northford. On roll call vote, all in favor.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS' REPORTS: The Fire Marshal's Report for May listing 156 calls was distributed. Reports were distributed from Deputy Chiefs Esposito and Colangelo.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Transportation: The purchase order for the chassis for Tanker 3 is \$97,432.00. The Town Council approved the purchase of the ambulance and the Chief requested that the State increase the transport units to three. He sent notice to the surrounding towns and AMR to be sure there are no objections as per requirements. Pension: The pension for Ken Hurlburt was approved. Communications: Regarding a Communications Committee, the Mayor

informed the Board that it was approved by the Council and it was his decision as to who will be appointed to the Committee.

REPORT FROM CHIEF: The Chief informed the Board that he has not yet received a response from the staff at the police department regarding the installation of a CAD to CAD link from dispatch to AMR. He advised the BOFC and the Mayor that this must be done soon as it will be required for MEDCOM, which will take the place of CMED as of July 1st. The current cost to the Town for CMED is \$16,280.73 and MEDCOM (medical communication system) will be \$9,243.84. The Chief is of the opinion that this will be an improvement over CMED and the contract will be annually. He discussed an emergency call at Co. 1 during the Memorial Day Parade and noted that the ambulance hit the ladder truck leaving a gouge in the ambulance. He noted that he recently attended a conference in Baltimore. He discussed a communication problem near the Foxon town line and suggested some less expensive solutions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chief noted that the Town has established a long range future planning committee requesting information regarding future needs for all departments. The possibility of a new centrally located complex which would include the police department, Company #4 and a Town Hall was discussed. The survey should be completed by June 12th and the Chief requested input from the department. He discussed the generator replacement and new uniform proposal also. The Chief discussed the Hoarding Task Force Notification Procedure. He informed all that once access is gained for an emergency and, if issues are identified that require assistance, backup should be called prior to vacating the residence. The fire training tower was discussed. It was noted that \$350,000 has been appropriated for the facility and the Chief has been in contact with the vendor that constructs these towers. He told the Board that it would be steel constructed and non-combustible. The first step is to test the soil. Deputy Chief Colangelo explained the process and stated that department members have agreed to help with tree removal on the site and Councilman Rose has offered to assist with the foundation. Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Prunier, that the BOFC authorize the Chief to begin the procedures for the training facility to include soil testing, the purchase of the plans for the foundation, and to issue the RFP. On roll call vote, all in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND COMMENTS: Captain Lyon attended the EMS Expo and took the remount ambulance which was well received for which AEV was appreciative. Company #2 discussed their golf tournament scheduled for June 26th. Department member Charles Miller discussed a medical issue that occurred during a training exercise with the simulator. He was checked out by the ambulance crew and then taken to the hospital. He discussed his workers' compensation claim that was denied and noted that he has been cleared by his own physician to return to duty but according to the Town's Risk Manager, Michele Knockwood, he can't return to duty. He was advised to bring his paperwork to Town Hall to meet with the Risk Manager.

WELFARE OF THE COMMISSION: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Prunier, that the BOFC adjourn to Executive Session at 9:36 p.m. for discussion on a personnel matter pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200(6)(A). Those present include Board members, Chief Seward and Deputy Chief Esposito. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Commissioner Ash made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Campion, that the BOFC reconvene to public session at 10:00 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Commissioner DellaCamera made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Prunier, that the BOFC reappoint William Seward, III as Fire Chief for a three year period from July 6, 2015 to July 5, 2018.

On roll call vote, all in favor.

The July and August Board meetings were discussed and it was determined that the July meeting will be cancelled. A determination for the August meeting will be made at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Prunier, seconded by Commissioner Ash, that the BOFC adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m. On roll call vote, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane B. Whalen

Diane B. Whalen, Board Clerk