

MINUTES

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING JUNE 18, 2024

A meeting of the North Haven Board of Fire Commission was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM @ Montowese Co2, 282 Quinnipiac Ave, North Haven, CT.

Commissioner's Present:

Pasquale Nuzzolillo, Chairman
Vincenzo Gallo, Vice Chairman
Mary Jane Mulligan, Secretary
Jennie Caldwell, Commissioner
Patricia Brown, Commissioner

Commissioner's Absent:

Staff Present:

Paul Januszewski, Fire Chief

Chairman Nuzzolillo called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Gallo made a motion, with a second motion from Commissioner Mulligan to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commission that was held on May 16, 2024.

VOTE: Nuzzolillo – yes, Gallo – yes, Mulligan – yes, Caldwell – yes, Brown - yes

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Januszewski discussed his Chief's Report and spoke regarding the following: EMS alarms dispatched; current budget FY 23/24 97.1% spent thus far; no further revenue to report as Board of Finance hasn't reported on since April meeting; vehicle maintenance line refund from State expected for reimbursement of hazardous foam disposal; number of staffing shortages discussed; current shifts are staffed with 2 shifts of 11 persons and 2 shifts of 10 persons all shifts running with 10 person minimum; lastly, Fire Marshal Office inspections and investigations discussed.

Chairman Nuzzolillo asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Chief's report.

A brief discussion was had regarding the Chief's report (the new FY budget) with the commissioners and Chief Januszewski. Commissioner Caldwell attended the Board of Finance meeting after the FY 25/26 budget passed. There were some comments regarding adding 2 firefighters to the employment table; there was a question to the Chairman of the Board of Finance regarding the information regarding the savings of the contractual replacement line item when you have an 11 person shift that Chief Januszewski had shared. He stated he never saw the numbers that showed the savings in the budget. Commissioner Caldwell shared that information with him and will share it with the other members of the Board of Finance. Chief Januszewski stated an email was sent to the Chairman of the BOF as well as all the members of the Board of Fire Commission, there will be a meeting sometime in October/November with the Selectman and the Board of Finance Chairman to discuss this further.

Secondly, Commissioner Caldwell stated that Mr. Freda told the person questioning the fire department that there was a meeting with Chief Januszewski and the Union President regarding staffing for next year. Chief Januszewski stated that the Union called for a meeting with the First Selectman to discuss plans for future years and there was a conversation about some of the different options on the table and it is all contingent on the budget workshop for next year. Nothing else was discussed that could be committed to at this time.

Chairman Nuzzolillo thanked Mary and Tom White for being such strong advocates for the fire department and their continued support especially at the Town meeting and the Board of Finance meeting suggesting that we add 2 additional firefighters and the cost savings it would present. Chief Januszewski stated that there was some confusion as to where the savings were located within the present budget. The savings won't be found in the budget because the contractually replacement staffing line has already been calculated to factor that number into the budget.

CORRESPONDENCES:

Chief Januszewski stated that he had nothing. Commissioners had no correspondence either.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Januszewski spoke about old business. Chief Januszewski stated the two (2) new engines are expected to arrive within the month as the final inspection of these engines has been completed. Chief Januszewski thanked the members that served on this adhoc committee for volunteering their time and commitment to this department and the service of developing these engines. Chairman Nuzzolillo also thanked those members on behalf of the Fire Commission for their commitment to this department.

Commissioner Caldwell asked if the leased engine will be returned once the new engines are in service. Chief Januszewski stated yes indeed the leased engine will be returned. Lastly, she spoke about the new budget that they took out the lease for the new engines and she asked is the money someplace else and it's going to be used. Chief Januszewski was told by the 1st Selectman that they are going to work out the finance agreements with the bank and perhaps forgo payment the first year and extend it out 5 more years. He was assured that the town will figure that all out and there will be no delay in the delivery of our two (2) engines.

A brief discussion was had about out-of-service apparatus and equipment funding in the next F/Y budget. Chief Januszewski discussed the items he will be looking to purchase.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Januszewski stated that he had nothing.

GOOD OF FIRE DEPARTMENT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Nuzzolillo asked for a motion to move into executive session.

Commissioner Mulligan made a motion, with a second motion from Commissioner Gallo, to convene an executive session at 6:26 PM.

VOTE: Nuzzolillo – yes, Gallo – yes, Mulligan – yes, Caldwell – yes, Brown - yes

Chairman Nuzzolillo moved to reconvene the meeting at 6:55 PM.

Chairman Nuzzolillo stated that Commissioner Mulligan had a motion to be made.

Commissioner Mulligan made a motion, with a second motion from Commissioner Gallo to accept Justin Ball as a probationary member of Northeast Co4, effective immediately.

VOTE: Nuzzolillo – yes, Gallo – yes, Mulligan – yes, Caldwell – yes, Brown - yes

Chairman Nuzzolillo stated having no further business to come before the Board of Fire Commission, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Gallo made a motion, with a second motion from Commissioner Mulligan, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM.

VOTE: Nuzzolillo – yes, Gallo – absent, Mulligan – yes, Caldwell – yes, Brown – yes

Reminder: Please note the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commission will be held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM @ Montowese Co2.