

Town of Suffield



Board of Fire Commissioners **Minutes**

Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
May 10, 2016

Commission chair, Jeremiah Mahoney, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Suffield Police Department Community Room. Present: P. Christian, J. Mahoney, J Caron, R. Gemme, E. O'Hurley, A. Parrish, Chief Flynn, Fire Marshal M. Thibedeau, and observers.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair introduced and welcomed new Commissioner Andy Parrish, who will be replacing Commissioner Trowbridge.

Secretary's Report

Christian moved, Caron seconded to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2016 Commission meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel

Rich Faraci, Firefighter Recruitment Committee, introduced new volunteer firefighter Greg Gay. Greg resides in Feeding Hills.

Financial Report

The Commission reviewed the current year to date financial information. Gemme moved, Christian seconded to approve the financial report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Calls and Activities

The Commission reviewed the report for April.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

None

Old Business

None

New Business

The Chair reported that a grievance has been filed by a career firefighter. He explained the grievance process and stated that the First Selectman's office will be reviewing the information and doing some fact finding. This may include interviewing personnel. The Commission does not have a direct role in the grievance procedure.

Chief's Report

- All vehicles are up to speed with the exception of the Tower. ACCE has indicated that they would consider financing replacements for the tower, rescue and pumper. More info to follow. O'Hurley motioned to form a committee to research prices of these vehicles for future use. Discussion followed regarding the fact that since prices change yearly, this information probably would not be current by the time it was needed. Commissioner O'Hurley then withdrew his motion.
- Station 2 sprinkler system work is in progress.
- Station 3 bricks to repair building have arrived but repair has not yet begun.

Commissioner Christian asked about the status of the Station 4 driveway. Chief Flynn reported that this was a project on the ACCE list, but is not sure if will be something completed during the next year.

Fire Marshal's Report

- Fire Marshal Thibedeau reported that he had 60 contacts for service in the last month.
- He is currently in the process of setting up training exercises in May/June at Health by Design on Rt. 159.
- There will be a meeting with the Station 2 sprinkler consultant next Thursday. There are concerns about water pressure safety margins at that location.
- He attended training on encapsulation foam.

Other

Chief Flynn made a request to carry over one week of vacation time. O'Hurley moved, Caron seconded to grant Chief Flynn's request to carry over one week of vacation time. The motion was defeated 4-2 (Christian, Mahoney, Parrish, Gemme voting against, O'Hurley, and Caron voting for).

Executive Session

Christian moved, Mahoney seconded to enter Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/update on the Strategic Plan for the Fire Department.

Mahoney moved, O'Hurley seconded to return to regular session at 8:09 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mahoney moved, Gemme seconded to adjourn the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Christian, Secretary