

Town of Suffield



Board of Fire Commissioners **Minutes**

Minutes of the Fire Commission Meeting
November 8, 2016

Commission Chair, Jeremiah Mahoney, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Suffield Police Department Community Room. Present: J. Mahoney, J. Caron, E. O'Hurley, A. Parrish, R. Gemme, P. Christian, Fire Marshal M. Thibedeau and observers. Absent: Chief Flynn.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report

O'Hurley moved, Caron seconded to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 Commission meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

The Commission reviewed current year to date financial information for 2016-17. Fire Marshal Thibedeau noted that all financials were where they should be however; there will be a large financial hit to Maintenance as a result of extensive repairs to Engine #3. Repairs included work on the radiator and frame. Christian moved, Caron seconded to approve the financial report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence

A letter was received from resident Mr. Ted Pohrylo regarding a large increase (80-85%) he had received to his homeowners insurance due to the absence of a fire hydrant. He contacted Chief Flynn and explained the situation. The Chief was able to provide documentation for the insurance company which reduced the increase to its normal level. Mr. Pohrylo wanted to express his gratitude to Chief Flynn and the Fire Department for being a "class act."

A letter was received by Fire Marshall Thibedeau from the Department of Administrative Services of the State dated 10/31/16. On behalf of the State Fire Marshal, Mr. William Abbott, he wanted to congratulate Fire Marshal Thibedeau and the Suffield Fire Department for being awarded the 2015 Life Safety Achievement Award. The basis for the award is zero fire deaths in residential or 10% reduction in fire deaths from previous year.

Calls and Activities

The Commission reviewed the report for September. A total of 34 calls were received during the month. Fire Marshal Thibedeau noted this was on the lighter side and none of the incidents stood out. The commission reviewed which firefighters had been attending the calls. Caron mentioned the Hastings Farms call and noted he had heard nothing but great things about this call. Fire

Marshal Thibedeau explained the details of the call to the group.

Public Comment

Commissioner Mahoney discussed a letter from Chief Flynn requesting that he be allowed to break from normal submission procedures in order to meet a tight timeline for submitting an application for a grant allowing the Town to obtain Thermal Imaging Camera. This will be the second time for the Town has submitted for this grant. Chief Flynn has been working with various individuals in order to determine how we can better position the Town in order to receive the award.

Caron motioned to allow Chief Flynn to break from normal submission procedures in order to ensure the application is submitted in a timely fashion. Mahoney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- None

Chief's Report

- Station 4 – the apron has been repaved and Engine 4 is back at the station
- Roof still on agenda
- Station 2 sprinkler had additional issues with water lines. Work will move forward.
- Engine 3 had scheduled work performed as well as a few unknowns that were fixed

Chairman's Report

- None

Fire Marshal's Report

- Blue prints are coming in for Suffield Academy. Fire Marshal Thibedeau is working on hydrant locations and other concerns with the Suffield Academy. Fire Marshal Thibedeau discussed the design of the new area and how it will be classified
- Reviewed site plans for the Brewery. Site changes for accessibility are being discussed.
- Modifications have been approved for WPCA.
- East Street Apartments and Hydroponic Tomato Farm – still on standby

Other

None

Personnel

None

Adjournment

Caron moved, Gemme seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Christian, Secretary