

TOWN OF SOUTHINGTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Daly called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on June 17, 2010, to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Daly, Sherman, Longo, Nevelos and Berkmoes were present. Also in attendance were Chief Clark and Asst. Chief Wisner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Berkmoes, to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2010 special meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Nevelos, to approve the payment of bills for May in the amount of \$119,635.42. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief's Report:

Chief Clark reported:

- A Red Cross blood drive was held in May. Fifty-five pints collected.
- The department was invited to AMR's annual picnic. Staff members and the on duty shift attended.
- The annual service for the Hurst tool was done this month. No problems were found.
- Company 2's kitchen renovation is progressing. The framing and rough plumbing have been done. After an inspection of the framing is completed, the hood system is scheduled to be installed.
- A sound system has been installed in the training room. More cabinets are scheduled for installation later this month, giving the training room four computer workstations.
- The Memorial Day parade was well attended by most companies.
- Youth Honor Day was June 1, 2010. Southington High School student, Melissa Moroski, shadowed Chief Clark for the morning.
- Research is being done for a policy on exposed tattoos that are found offensive. Hartford Police Department's tattoo policy leaves it up to the chief to determine if the tattoo is offensive. New Britain Fire Department's policy is for all tattoos to be covered.
- A staff meeting was held on June 16, 2010. All companies were represented except Company 3. Future meetings will be made mandatory.
- Items discussed at staff meeting:
 1. Computer access has been set up in all the stations. Training will be held in the next few weeks.
 2. The new Probationary Firefighter Program was introduced. The officers will be given time to digest all the changes and contact Chief Clark with any questions before it is implemented.

3. Relocating of apparatus will be done in the near future. L2 will be moved to Company 3, SRU will be moved to Headquarters and the Fire Prevention Trailer will be moved to Company 5.
4. The SRU is being moved to Headquarters to begin outfitting it as a backup rescue truck.
5. Research on purchasing storage trailers is being done.
6. T-shirts for the volunteer force is being researched. The t-shirt's would be worn for all training and civic functions. It would not be worn off duty.
7. E11 will be responding to all emergency calls. E11 will self dispatch in emergency mode. Headquarters or Company 1 personnel will not be toned out if the call is not in their district. The response may be upgraded if the severity of the call warrants it. This solution is a result of a problem that was brought up in the dispatch meeting.
8. E11 and R1 will be responding to all motor vehicle accidents with injuries. These calls will be stilled and additional manpower will be toned out only if the severity of the call warrants it.
9. New equipment being received within the next few weeks: five new air packs and two new thermal imaging cameras (TIC). The cameras will go on E12 and E51. This will equip all first due engines with TIC's.
10. Incident times and numbers will no longer be given over the air. The companies will receive a printout weekly to update their records.
11. The Everbridge System is being utilized by the department as a communication tool. Questionnaires have been completed and will be entered into the database for future use.
 - New uniforms for the paid staff are being looked into.
 - Work on the end of year budget is being done. There may be transfer requests to close out the year within the next few weeks.
 - Assistant Chief Wisner attended the Board of Finance meeting last week and all department requests were approved.

Chairman Daly asked for more information on determining if a tattoo is offensive. Chief Clark is still researching the issue and hopes to have more information at next month's meeting.

Chairman Daly asked if the staff meeting were mandatory and if the officers got paid. Chief Clark responded yes.

Chairman Daly asked if the relocation of L2 to Company 3 would make the apparatus available to the Company 3 members. Chief Clark responded that the members would have to have additional training to qualify as an aerial driver. The reason for moving it to Company 3 is a storage issue and it may be just a temporary move.

- The Decon Trailer has been repaired and returned to the department. A few issues still have to be addressed. The department has not been trained to use it.

Captain Kurtz is in contact with the state and the repair company to resolve these issues.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Sherman, to accept the Chief's Report as given. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Nevelos, to take Item 9.A. out from the consent agenda and table it. Motion carried with four ayes and one nay.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS:

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Nevelos, that the Board adopts Consent Items 8.B. as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Lt. Soccodato's one-year leave of absence.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Longo, to adjourn to Executive Session, excluding the public and the press with the exception of Chief Clark and Assistant Chief Wisner, at 6:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel matters were discussed.

Returned to open session at 7:33 p.m.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Berkmoes, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Sherman, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners