

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Daly called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on October 15, 2009, 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.

A moment of silence was observed for the death of retired Training Officer/Captain David Rabito from Company 1.

MOTION: by Berkmoes, seconded by Nevelos, to approve the minutes of September 24, 2009, regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Sherman seconded by Longo, to approve payment of bills for September 2009 in the amount of \$44,325.66. Motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: (Copy attached to minutes)

- The department training officer has opted to return to the line and applications are being accepted for his replacement.
- A larger dish has been installed at Fire Headquarters for direct connection to the Police Department and the canopy system.
- A meeting was held by the Health Department to update the department heads on the status the H1N1.
- The foundation has been poured for the antenna tower at Company 2. The tower should be completed in the next few weeks, with anti-climb protection.
- At the monthly Department Heads Meeting the flu vaccination clinics were discussed.
- The annual capital improvement requests must be in by October 30th. The department request is still being revised from last year and will include a new engine. The strategy is to replace an engine every other year to avoid an emergency need to replace all four front line pieces at once.
- Hartford Insurance is closing their offices at 100 and 200 Executive Boulevard.
- A flu clinic was held at Headquarters on October 8, 2009 for town department employees.
- A Freedom of Information meeting was held on October 8, 2009 in the Town Council Chambers. Commissioner Berkmoes and Chief Clark attended. Chief Clark and Assistant Chief Wisner will attend another class on October 20, 2009 in Cromwell.

- Fire Department health and wellness was a topic of discussion at the monthly Career Chiefs' meeting. The problem is wide spread throughout the state.
- Chief Clark met with a representative from Concentra to discuss physical requirements based on NFPA Standard 1582 and 1583. Concentra has been designated by the Town's workman compensation carrier as the company to conduct all entry level physicals and non-emergency job related injuries. Concentra is reviewing the material and will put a proposal together.
- A Health and Wellness Committee consisting of Chief Clark, Assistant Chief Wisner and three members of the union has been formed. In the future, Chief Clark would like to add volunteer officers to the committee.
- The quarterly Ambulance Review Committee met this week. Discussed were the recent bus accidents that excluded the Fire Department. A protocol to dispatch the Fire Department was agreed upon and a future meeting with the Board of Education, Police Department, AMR and the Fire Department is expected.
- The quarterly Safety Committee meeting met this week. The department has one member out with a work related injury and is not anticipated to return until November.
- Chief Clark attended the Drug Task Force Rally yesterday evening.
- Chief Clark attended the monthly Board of Finance meeting and the department's transfer request was approved.
- The Salamander accountability software will be installed tomorrow. The hardware used to take the pictures and make the identification tags will be borrowed from Cheshire.
- The mobile command unit is expected in on Monday at 10:30.

Chairman Daly inquired about the requirements for the Training Officer's position and the guidelines outlined in the union contract. Chief Clark discussed the need for Fire Instructor II within the first year of holding the position. Chief Clark told the Board that there hasn't been a lot of interest in the position due to the flexibility of the 24/72 schedule on the line and the responsibilities that go with the job.

Commissioner Sherman thanked the department on the response to the fire on Norton Street. The town building that was exposed to the fire houses the town's voting machines.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the purchase of a 2010 Ford Explorer XLR from Dowling Ford for \$24,321.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Company 3's floor – The floor installer was contacted for a quote on ceramic flooring. The cost would be an additional \$4,000. The bid for the vinyl tiles includes heavy duty glue that is stronger than needed at the current moisture level. The Board instructed Chief Clark to get a bid for the ceramic tile installation and email the information to the members for their vote on which material they are in favor of.

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS:

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

- A. The purchase of a 2010 Ford Explorer XLT from Dowling Ford for \$24,321.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

Commissioner Longo asked about Company 5's sign and the current faded condition. Southington CERT team is in the process of replacing the sign.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Longo, to adjourn to Executive Session, excluding the public and the press with the exception of Chief Clark and Asst. Chief Wisner to discuss personnel matters, at 6:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel issues were discussed.

Return to regular session at 7:28 p.m.

No action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Robert Sherman, Secretary