

TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chairperson Longo called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on December 16, 2010, to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Longo, Sherman, Nevelos, Dandrow and Baker were present. Also in attendance were Chief Clark and Assistant Chief Wisner.

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TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Baker read the Firefighters Prayer.

DEC 23 2010

A moment of silence was held.

3:25 PM

Meeting was turned over to Commissioner Sherman.

By Leslie H. Cotton
Town Clerk

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Baker, nominating Sherman as Temporary Chairman. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Dandrow, nominating Sherman as Permanent Chairman. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Nevelos, to accept the minutes of December 2, 2010, special meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Longo, to approve the payment of bills for November in the amount of \$39,975.68. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Baker, seconded by Nevelos, nominating Dandrow as Vice Chairperson. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Dandrow, seconded by Longo, nominating Baker as Secretary. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief's Report:

- Chief Clark, Lt. Donnelly and Lt. Paul attended a meeting held by Connecticut Computer Service to discuss their plan for all town departments to be linked to one main server. Their five year proposal includes switching to Cox Cable as the Town's internet provider. They also proposed to move the main server to Town Hall from the library. Chief Clark offered an alternate location of Fire Headquarters' backroom. The room is temperature controlled and accessible

by key twenty-four hours a day. The outcome of the location has not been determined.

- The Recruitment and Retention Committee has elected Captain Urso as chairman.
- Presently there are nine recruits signed up for the January Probationary Firefighter Program. There was a tenth who had to drop out due to employment obligations.
- A quote for fiber optic lines to be installed from the Town Hall to Fire Headquarters has not been received yet.
- At the Department Heads monthly meeting, a maximum of a two percent increase for the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget requests was discussed.
- Chief Clark attended the Information Technology Committee meeting. Their budget was discussed.
- Two Verizon air cards have been ordered for C3 and C6. The cards are to give the Incident Commander access to internet information at a fire scene.
- A digitizer decoder box has been ordered for Central Dispatch. The box will be used as a redundancy for the current box. It is expected to be installed in February.
- Chief Clark attended the Big 50, the Gentlemen's Holiday and the Career Fire Chief's get together.
- Chief Clark met with the Town Building Maintenance Committee at Company 3 to discuss his request for roof replacement. The committee concurred with Chief Clark's determination and recommended it be requested in next fiscal year's budget. The committee was also reviewing the conditions of all the stations' parking lots. Though Company 2 and Company 5 need their lots repaved, Chief Clark does not feel that they are a priority due to the economic climate.
- A staff meeting was held on December 15, 2010. Many topics were discussed and the minutes will be sent to the Board in a few weeks.

Chairman Sherman asked for more details on the fiber optic line. Chief Clark discussed how he is in the process of researching costs and if the new proposed town server is installed at Fire Headquarters, it will eliminate the department's expense for the fiber optic lines.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Richard Hart, of 139 Summitt Street, Plantsville, discussed his concerns on a media report stating that the department, by Chief Clark's direction, was requesting a new fire engine and retiring a ten year old engine. Mr. Hart, who is a battalion chief with the Waterbury Fire Department, supplied the Board with a copy of the NFPA standard recommending retiring engines after twenty years.

Chairman Sherman and Commissioner Baker explained the actual request, as detailed in Chief Clark's Capital Expenditure Request Proposal, any new engine

would actually retire one of the oldest engines in the fleet, a 1989 Maxim Pumper. Commissioner Baker recommended the Capital Improvement Plan on the Town's website, Southington.org, be a more accurate source of information about the Fire Department's requests and future needs. The Board thanked Mr. Hart for his input.

FF Robert Upson spoke on the NFPA guideline standard, explaining the twenty-year life expectancy was a drop dead date. Any engine after twenty years should be put in permanent retirement. FF Upson stated that the Southington Fire Department's vehicle maintenance program is very good and credits Chief Clark's proactive program. FF Upson feels that the town residents are owed good equipment.

Commissioner Sherman communicated Company 2's invitation to their Christmas get together on Monday, December 20, 2010, to the board members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Budget – The 2011-2012 fiscal budget requests were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Clark discussed an equipment fee proposal schedule adopted by FEMA. Commissioner Baker suggested that an overhead rate also be charged such as the Engineering Department currently charges. Chief Clark will research other town department fees and will submit a recommendation for next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS:

MOTION: by, Nevelos seconded by Longo, that the Board adopts Consent Item 9.A. as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

A. Company 2's slate of officers.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.

B. Company 2's event requests.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Baker, to adjourn to the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.



Mary E. Baker, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners