

TOWN OF SOUTHTON  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Daly called the special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on April 22, 2009, to order at 7:30 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 Berkmoes, seconded by Nevelos, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2009 special meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Longo, to approve payment of bills for March 2009 in the amount of \$23,172.38. Motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: (Copy attached to minutes)

- Next months Chief's Report will be done on the Firehouse Software which will differ from the current format.
- A truck committee has been formed to put together specifications for the next engine. The committee has visited area Fire Departments to compare their equipment versus Southington's. The committee is scheduled to do a second round of department tours on April 30. The department mechanic has been consulted about the findings. The current feeling is that Pierce, the maker of the majority of the department's apparatus is the best, though all makes are being researched.
- The overtime transfer request to the Board of Finance was tabled during their March meeting and withdrawn by Chief Clark for the April meeting. The request was withdrawn for reevaluation of possible transfers.
- Chief Clark met with Captain Badgley of Company 2 to discuss the renovation of the station's kitchen. His plans had to be modified to meet fire code. At this time the item has been cut by the Board of Finance and Chief Clark is requesting approval to ask for it to be restored.
- A meeting was held on April 15 with the volunteer company officers and their training instructors, along with Captain Mello. The meeting was well attended and multiple topics were discussed. The new SOP's were handed out and the method of reimbursement check disbursement was agreed upon. A monthly deadline for submission of company payrolls was made for the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. The meeting was successful and another one is planned within the next 2-3 months that will include all department officers.
- Radio procedures were discussed during the volunteer officers meeting. Unsolicited radio responses have been stopped.

- Next week there will be an SOP Review meeting for the first quarter of the manual. The plan is to review the manual in four sections and have it completed by December.
- The department's cell phone provider has been changed to Verizon.
- New narrow band radios have been installed in the cars and first line pieces. An amplifier will be installed in the engines to help with the volume.
- Two new Hurst tools have been ordered.
- L2 will have its hydraulic lines replaced.
- The vehicle repair account will likely need money transferred into it before the year is out.
- Firehouse Software is live.
- Chief Clark and Lt. Donnelly attended a meeting at the Police Department to discuss the Mobile Command Unit.
- The new computers have been installed and the old ones have been moved down the line.
- The diesel tank is having an algaecide added to it. There was a water problem and algae have grown in it.
- Company 5's oil tank also has a water problem and will receive the algaecide. The tank will be inspected to determine the source of the water.
- A quote to paint two offices in the administration area, the lobby, and the hallway in the Inspection Bureau has been obtained. The cost to replace the rugs in the Inspection Bureau is also being sought. Both projects will be done if money is available this year. The Inspection Bureau's renovations are needed to fix the damage from the water leak.
- There was one application received for the inspector's position.
- The advertisement for entry level testing will go out next week. Deputy Town Manager Sciota will be asked to review the ad before it is sent out.
- The old rescue truck was sold for \$2,500. The buyer is expected to pick it up tomorrow.
- The Memorial Day Parade is on March 29. Chief Clark would like a strong showing from the department.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of Company 1's request to participate in the Jimmy Fund fundraising event at Stop & Shop on April 25, 2009.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending requesting the Town Manager to restore the 4-wheel drive vehicle and Company 2's kitchen renovations to the 09-10 budget.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Budget – The Board of Finance gave Chief Clark an opportunity to transfer funds to accounts they had cut on the 09-10 budget. Chief Clark did make some transfers and also requested the restoration of the 4 Wheel Drive Vehicle and Company 2's Kitchen Renovations. The total cuts from the Board of Finance are \$163,000. The two requests for the Town Council to restore are the items that are felt to be the neediest. Car 4 has very high mileage and the repair costs are much greater than the actual value and Company 2's kitchen is currently unusable. The replacement vehicle would be a smaller SUV that would accommodate all the gear that needs to be with the officer at all times. Company 1 has offered the \$7,000 that was approved for their bathroom renovation to be used to offset the expense of Company 2's kitchen. They recognize the hardship that Company 2 has without a working kitchen. With the Board of Finance cuts the budget is -1.7% less than last year with the majority of the budget increases covering the 4.25% negotiated raises.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Nevelos, to approve Company 1's request to participate in the Jimmy Fund fundraising event at Stop & Shop on April 25, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Berkmoes, to approve requesting for the Town Manager to restore the 4-wheel drive vehicle and Company 2's kitchen renovations to the 09-10 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

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 8:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel matters were discussed.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Sherman, to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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Robert Sherman, Secretary  
Board of Fire Commissioners