

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Daly called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on December 12, 2007, to order at 7:30 p.m. Commissioners Daly, Kupec, Sherman, Bedard and Longo were present. Also in attendance were Chief McDonough and Asst. Chief Wisner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Daly welcomed Dolores Longo to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Meeting was turned over to Chief McDonough.

MOTION: by Bedard, seconded by Kupec, nominating Daly as Chairman. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was turned over to Chairman Daly.

MOTION: by Kupec, seconded by Longo, nominating Bedard as Vice Chairperson. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Bedard, seconded by Kupec, nominating Sherman as Secretary. Nominations were closed. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Kupec, seconded by Bedard, to accept the minutes of November 14, 2007, regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried with four ayes and one abstention.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Kupec, to approve the payment of bills for November in the amount of \$68,531.53. Motion carried unanimously.

Chiefs Report: (Copy attached to the minutes.)

Chief McDonough reported:

- Engine 11 has damaged springs in the right rear side. The damaged springs caused sagging in the rear which was a contributing factor in an accident on Old Turnpike Road December 1, 2007. The engine sideswiped a side-mirror of a resident's vehicle. The bill has been received and being processed. The springs are on order and the department mechanic will check the other fire apparatus to see if it a wide spread problem. The manufacturer has been contacted to see if they have had similar complaints, which they haven't.
- Chief McDonough reminded the Board of the annual Christmas visit on Monday, December 17, 2007.

- Vice Chairperson Bedard and Chief McDonough attended the Board of Finance meeting on December 5, 2007 for the transfer request and special appropriation approved by the Board for the temporary position of Assistant Chief. The requests were not approved and the Board of Finance went on to state that any special appropriations would most likely be denied because of a shortage of revenue for the town. Chairman Daly asked about the statement that was made that any expenditures would need to be approved by the Board of Finance and Chief McDonough said that under the charter that after the budget is approved the Board of Fire Commissioners are in charge of approving expenses.
- Commissioner Kupec asked about the visible water damage to a few of the ceiling tiles in Headquarters Training Room. Chief McDonough stated that a repairman has been contacted and once the source is determined, either being from the new addition or from the existing roof, it can be decided if the cost will be covered under a warranty. Past problems in the same area were created by the existing roof which is not under the warranty.

MOTION: by Kupec, seconded by Sherman, to accept the Chiefs Report as given. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Captain Ed Ozga, from Company 3, notified the board of the solicitation of town businesses for advertisement in a book the company will be putting together to commemorate their 100th anniversary in November 2008.

Captain Ozga also requested time during Executive Session to discuss an issue previously brought to the board. Chairman Daly asked the opinion of the board and they agreed to hear from Captain Ozga.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Budget - Discussed after New Business.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Chairman Daly asked the Board when they would like to schedule a Budget Workshop and it was decided that it would be held on Monday, January 7, 2008, at 8 PM.

Vice Chairperson Bedard suggested appointing a commissioner to each company including the Headquarters Company as a liaison who would randomly visit. Commissioner Kupec objected to the suggestion feeling that it would create

issues of following the chain of command. Chairman Daly suggested a vote be taken.

MOTION: by Sherman, seconded by Bedard, to appoint each commissioner as a liaison to specific companies, which will be assigned before the annual Christmas visit next Monday. Motion passed with four ayes and one nay.

MOTION: by Bedard, seconded by Kupec, to adjourn to Executive Session, excluding the public and press with the exception of the Chief McDonough, Asst. Chief Wisner, Chief Elect Harold Clark and including Captain Ozga for a short period of time to discuss personnel matters at 8:37p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel matters were discussed. No action was taken.

MOTION: by Kupec, seconded by Sherman, return to open session at 9:24 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Bedard, to adjourn to the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Sherman, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners