

TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Daly called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Engine Company 3 on September 24, 2009, to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Daly, Longo, Nevelos and Berkmoes were present. Commissioner Sherman was absent. Also in attendance were Chief Clark and Asst. Chief Wisner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION: by Nevelos, seconded by Berkmoes, to approve the minutes of August 13, 2009, regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Nevelos seconded by Berkmoes, to approve payment of bills for August 2009 in the amount of \$64,454.06. Motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: (Copy attached to minutes)

- A meeting with NECS is scheduled for tomorrow to discuss radio frequency options. The Darling Street fire brought the radio traffic problems to the forefront of the department's problem areas. Multiple transmissions over the same frequency caused a safety issue. The meeting will also discuss the dead spot at Southington High School.
- An IT Committee meeting was held with Cox Communications to discuss upgrading the internet. A larger dish installed on top of Headquarters is to be installed in the near future to speed communications between Headquarters, the Police Department and Town Hall. A backup fiber optic line is also being sought.
- Chief Clark took part in the Southington Library's 'Tough Guys Read' program. His picture will appear on the campaign posters along with other town officials.
- Chief Clark and Captain Badgley priced hooded systems for Company 2's kitchen. The type that is required by code costs from \$10,000-\$11,000. On the agenda for tonight is a request to transfer the funds from Company 1 Renovations to Company 2's Renovation of \$7,000. Company 1 has agreed to have Company 2's kitchen prioritized over their bathroom renovation.
- There were two meetings held on September 16, one with career officers and the other with company officers. Both meetings went well and quarterly, combined meetings are planned for December and March.
- Northwest Communications met with Chief Clark to discuss other ideas to solve the radio traffic problem. A possible solution is to have C3 equipped with two radios in the rear of the vehicle with a headset in which to

concentrate on the broadcasts. C6 would also be outfitted to mimic C3 when C3 is not available.

- E11 is being retrofitted with headsets to determine if the headsets would baffle noise which is a regular problem.
- There is a Statewide Disaster meeting being held at Headquarters tonight.
- The appropriation that was requested of the Board of Finance at last months meeting was denied. The Board of Finance would like the money to be found in the existing budget. A request is included in the agenda for approval for a transfer from the overtime budget.
- A new thermal imaging camera was purchased. A fourth camera will be requested in next years budget which will equip all first due engines.
- The department did a great job on the fire on Norton Street yesterday.
- Company 3's floor has been tested for moisture and a price for grinding down to cement and tile replacement is \$7,800. Discussion was held on the warranty from the installer and other alternatives. All options will be investigated.
- The Apple Harvest Parade will be on October 4. The meeting time and place will be emailed to the commissioners.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of appointing FF David Steele to the position of Training Officer of Company 1.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of Company 1's request for a three-month leave of absence for 2nd Lt. Michael Soccodato.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of FF John Aldieri's request to participate in a water quality sampling program through the State of Connecticut DEP on October 25, 2009 at Fire Headquarters.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of Company 2's request for a three-month leave of absence for FF Richard Brodeur.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending an extension of FF Joshua Levin's leave to February 2010.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of Company 3's request to hold an Old Timers Day Family Picnic on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of Company 5's requests to participate in Plainville's Chili Run on September 26; to hold October, November and December meetings on Sunday night; and to hold cub scout meetings at the firehouse.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the request of a transfer of \$10,570 from the Overtime account to the Stipend account.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the request for transfers totaling \$22,000 from the Volunteer Services account, Training Services account and Medical Services account to the Tuition Reimbursement account. He also recommended the transfer from Company 1 Renovation account of \$7,000 to the Company 2 Renovation account.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS:

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

A. Company 1's request to appoint FF David Steele the company Training Officer.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

B. 2nd Lt. Soccodato's three-month leave request.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

C. FF John Aldieri's request to participate in a water quality sampling program on October 25, 2009.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

D. Company 2's request for a six-month leave of absence for FF Richard Brodeur.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

E. Company 2's request for extending the leave of absence of FF Joshua Levin. Chief's recommendation is to February 2010.

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.

ACTION: Approved.

- F. Company 3's request to hold an Old Timer's Day Family Picnic on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.
- G. Company 5's requests to participate in Plainville's Chili Run on September 26; to hold October, November and December meetings on Sunday night; and to hold cub scout meetings at the firehouse.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.
- H. Requesting a transfer of \$10,570 to the Stipend Account from the Overtime Account.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.
- I. Requesting transfers to the Tuition Reimbursement Account and Co 2 Renovation Account.
Recommendation: That the Board approves the request.
ACTION: Approved.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Berkmoes, 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 6:29 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.

Kevin R. Daly, Chairman
Board of Fire Commissioners