

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson Baker called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on February 19, 2015, to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Baker, Bunko, Stanforth, Longo and Kanute were present. Also in attendance were Chief Clark and Asst. Chief Wisner.

MOTION: by Bunko, seconded by Longo, to approve the minutes of January 7, 2015, special meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Bunko seconded by Longo, to approve payment of bills for January 2015 in the amount of \$48,183.72. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report: None

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- Chief Clark attended a meeting on the plans for the Greenway Commons project. The meeting detailed the schedule for the demolition of the Ideal Forge buildings over the next few months. The schedule predicts all the demolition to be completed by end of June. A public hearing will be held next week on the issue.
- The additional personnel that were hired during the snowstorms have affected the overtime budget.
- E-11 and R-1 are in the body shop for repairs. R-1 should be back by the end of next week. E-11 expected back in April.
- Town Manager Brumback has cut \$125,000 from the self-contained breathing apparatus replacement project in the 2015-2016 Capital Improvement Plan that was needed to fund the second half of the project. The funds will not be available until the 2017 budget year. The delay in the funds has stopped the current plan that would have replaced all air packs within two years. The vendor is preparing an alternative plan that would finance of the air packs through a lease purchase agreement. A different air pack is also being looked at. The new air pack has the current technology and is ergonomically designed.
- The budget was presented to Town Manager Brumback. The only cuts were the self-contained breathing apparatus replacement project in the Capital Improvement Plan, and a 10% cut in fuel.
- There have been more planning meetings on the NEXT-GEN project. The project will change the current dispatching software and a module for the on board computers for fire apparatus. The project will also replace all mobile data terminals on the engines.

- There is a retirement party for Captain Higgins March 5th at the Aqua Turf.
- Due to the retirement of Captain Higgins new hire FF Jasen Zarcone will start Monday, February 23, 2015, Lt. Eric Heath will be promoted to the captain of D Shift and FF Eric D'Arcy will be promoted to the lieutenant of B Shift.
- The Fire Department is scheduled to present the 2015-2016 budget request on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers.
- A public hearing on all town budgets will be held on March 2, 2015, at DePaolo Middle School.
- Chief Clark recommends notifying all private property owners that the digital dialer that currently monitors their fire alarm will be discontinued as of December 31, 2015. Chief Clark also recommends notifying all digital dialer monitored municipal properties that the service will be discontinued as of July 1, 2016.
- Chief Clark requested the commissions' approval to book a flight to National Fire Academy's Officers Weekend in Maryland April 16-20, 2015.

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

MOTION: by Bunko, seconded by Longo, to add item 9.B. to the agenda, action on sending written notification to users of the digital dialer alarm system that it is being discontinued as of December 31, 2015 for private property owners and July 1, 2016, for municipal properties. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Bunko, seconded by Kanute, to add item 9.C. to the agenda, action on Chief Clark's request to fly down to the National Fire Academy to attend classes on April 16-20, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT:

Activities of the Southington Fire Department for the month of January 2015:

1. Fire Marshal's inspections – 37
2. Reports to the State Fire Marshal – 177
3. Damage to property involved in fire - \$150,000
4. Damage to motor vehicles involved in fire - \$4,250
5. Other losses - \$75,500
6. Total - \$229,750
7. Total units responded were - 553

The following are recent fire incidents with significant damage:

- Close Harbour Seafood – Building fire with over \$225,00 worth of damage

- Southington Auto Sales – Building fire with \$470,000 worth of damage

Assistant Chief Wisner also reported the following projects that the Bureau has been active with:

- Napoli Imports is planning to build a strip mall and restaurant off of Knotter Drive
- 49 DePaolo Dr. is expanding to include an energy digester plant
- Sign Pro is open
- St. Thomas School's addition is progressing
- The Bureau continues to monitor the progress of the middle school projects
- Crystal Bee's on Spring St. is developing
- DFM Ballard and Inspector Hunt have been busy with EMT recertification online classes

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

COMMISSIONS COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Budget - The 2015-2016 budget was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Kanute, seconded by Longo, to approve an increase in the Chief's and Executive Assistant's salary. The Chief's salary would be increased by 3% and the Executive Assistant's salary would be increased to \$51,850. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Kanute, seconded by Longo, to approve sending written notifications to users of the digital dialer alarm system that it is being discontinued as of December 31, 2015 for private property owners and June 30, 2016, for municipal properties. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Stanforth stated that the changing the date of discontinuing the monitoring for municipal properties, to June 30, 2016, would follow the end of the fiscal year.

MOTION: by Kanute, seconded by Longo, to approve Chief Clark's request to fly down to the National Fire Academy on April 16-20, 2015, to attend classes. Motion carried unanimously.

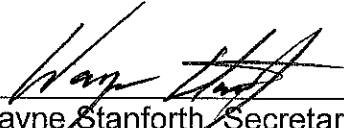
MOTION: by Bunko, seconded by Longo, to adjourn to Executive Session, excluding the public and the press with the exception of Chief Clark to discuss personnel and contractual matters at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action was taken.

Return to regular session

MOTION: by Stanforth, seconded by Longo, adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.



Wayne Stanforth, Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners