

TOWN OF SOUTHTON  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chairperson Bunko called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, held at Headquarters on September 17, 2015, to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners, Bunko, Stanforth, Longo and Kanute were present. Also in attendance were Chief Clark and Assistant Chief Wisner. Chairperson Baker was absent.

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Kanute, to accept the minutes of June 18, 2015, regular meeting as circulated. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Kanute, to approve payment of bills for August 2015 in the amount of \$44,370.51. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report:

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of FF Andrew Rennie's appointment to second lieutenant of Company 1.

Memo from Chief Clark recommending the approval of FF Eric Rathbun's one-year leave of absence request.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- The second annual Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015, at DePaolo Middle School.
- Chief Clark attended the Fire Rescue International conference in Atlanta, Georgia from August 24-30, 2015. Topics at the conference included information on rehabbing and civil unrest. Chief Clark also spoke with representatives from Kitty Smoke Detectors who offered to help the department obtain private grants if the FEMA fire prevention grant is not approved.
- Chief Clark also met with Bristol Fire Department Chief Jay Kolakoski at the FRI conference and reaffirmed the mutual aid between the two departments.
- The training on the new self-contained breathing apparatus' (SCBA) has almost been completed. Once completed the SCBA are expected to be put in service.
- L-1 had both of its alternators rebuilt. The choice to have the alternators rebuilt was made over ordering new parts that would have cost \$6,000 plus

labor. L-2's batteries were replaced. R-1's turbocharger had to be repaired and the cost was \$2,400.

- The generator bid for Fire Headquarters has been withdrawn for modification. Chief Clark has been meeting with Town Engineer Keith Hayden to determine specifications for the new bid. The delay of the bid awarding will not prevent the project from being completed this fiscal year.
- A new Bullard thermal imaging camera has been purchased for the new engine. This is a new manufacturer than previously used. The change was made because of multiple charging problems that the current inventory has had.
- A new TNT hydraulic rescue tool has been ordered. TNT is also a new manufacturer to the department. The decision to change from Hurst to TNT was made because of the operation speed and manufacturer's guarantee. The Rescue Tool Committee did extensive research, including product demonstrations, before recommending a tool.
- Promotional testing has begun with the written given on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 and the oral board will be held Friday, September 18, 2015. The results will generate a two-year list that will be used if any positions become available.
- Chief Clark thanked Captain Zygmunt and Retired Captain David Mikosz for representing the department at the September 11 ceremony.

Commissioner Stanforth thanked the Rescue Tool Committee for all the time and research they did for the department.

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

ASSISTANT CHIEF'S REPORT:

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

1. Fire Marshal's Inspections – 79
2. Reports to the State Fire Marshal – 180
3. Damage to property involved in fire - \$1,000
4. Damage to motor vehicles involved in fire - \$50
5. Other losses - \$0
6. Total - \$1,050
7. Total units responded were - 519

Assistant Chief Wisner reported that there were no significant fire events in the month of August.

Assistant Chief Wisner also reported that inspections backlog has decreased. He also reported that the Bureau is currently working on multiple plan reviews, including:

- An office building renovation at 400 Executive Blvd.
- Crystal Bees on Spring St. is moving forward
- Two expansion projects in the north end of town

Commissioner Stanforth asked how the new inspector was doing. Assistant Chief Wisner reported that Inspector Chozick has been a great addition to the Bureau.

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

COMMISSIONS COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Vice Chairperson Bunko reiterated Commissioner Stanforth's thanks to the Rescue Tool Committee. Vice Chairperson Bunko also thanked the Truck Committee for all the time they have worked on the new engine. Chief Clark discussed all the work and time that the Truck Committee has dedicated to designing the new engines and how knowledgeable they have become since their first project. Chief Clark also discussed how there are a core group of career members that have become very active in committees for the betterment of the department.

Commissioner Stanforth asked about the decrease in CRR visits. Chief Clark reported that the program has not been actively promoted recently because the detector inventory had been depleted. Chief Clark reported that as of Wednesday the detector supply has been replenished through the Save a Life event. Any inquiries to the program will be scheduled but any promotions will be delayed until after fire prevention week due to the on duty crew's commitment to school visits.

Commissioner Stanforth asked about the status of the explorer's program. Chief Clark reported that a group of members is working on a proposal. Commissioner Stanforth offered the commissions help if it is needed.

Commissioner Kanute thanked Captain Donnelly for all his help with dispatching issues since the new software system. He feels that Captain Donnelly does a great job and put a lot of time and effort into the project. Chief Clark also agreed that Captain Donnelly does a great deal for the department.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Stanforth, seconded by Longo, to approve of FF Andrew Rennie's appointment to second lieutenant of Company 1. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Stanforth, seconded by Longo, to approve of FF Eric Rathbun's one-year leave of absence request. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: by Longo, seconded by Stanforth, to adjourn to Executive Session, excluding the public and the press with the exception of Chief Clark to discuss personnel and contractual matters at 6:24 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No action was taken.

Return to regular session

MOTION: by Stanforth, seconded by Kanute, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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Wayne Stanforth, Secretary  
Board of Fire Commissioners