

TOWN OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONN.



**BOARD OF FIRE
COMMISSIONERS**

NEWTOWN BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Regular Monthly Meeting

Dodgingtown Fire

February 27, 2017

Commissioners Present: Bolmer, Brunetti, Manna, Nezvesky, Reilly and Whelan
Absent: Goosman
Marshals Present: Frampton, Halstead, Murphy and Ober
Chiefs: Basso, Ciaccia, Corbo, Halstead and Murphy

Chairman Manna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: none

MINUTES:

Correction under Budget:

On January 23, 2017, Manna and Nezvesky met with the First Selectman who recommended cuts to the BOFC budget, and then proceeded to meet with the Board of Selectman to discuss.

MOTION: Nezvesky moved that the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of January 23, 2017, be accepted as corrected.

Seconded: Reilly

Motion passed unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE:

Date: 1/3/17

To: Manna

From: Cragin

Re: Length of Service Awards Program – Pension (Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association)

Date: 1/24/17

To: Tait

From: Manna

Re: Award Bid to Firematic for Engine #111 Replacement

Award Bid to 4-Guys Fire Truck for replacement of tankers #229 #559 and #9 in the amount of \$1,308,521.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Stephen O'Hara of J. P. Maguire of Waterbury, CT, discussed his company's services for cleaning and repair of turnout gear. He stated that a reduced price is available if the turnout gear is cleaned before repair.

MARSHAL'S REPORTS:

Acting Fire Marshal Frampton reported for January 2017 there were 81 calls, 241 hours worked and 298 incidents. \$30 in fees were collected.

Frampton:

- Investigate work without permit at 53 Church Hill Road
- Bank Deposit
- Blocked exit at 123 South Main Street
- Sprinkler Inspection – 3 Primrose Street
- Knox box keys – 30 Church Hill Road, and 9 Turnberry
- EOC – open for cleaning

Murphy:

- Fire Drill – CAC
- Poster Contest

Ober:

- 12 Dickenson – Follow up on CO

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Combined Chiefs:

- Chief Halstead informed the BOFC that the Labor Day Parade Committee may be dissolving. They will be having a meeting on March 9th to determine their next steps. Once Halstead has more information from them, he will advise the BOFC.
- SOP's and SOG's should be reviewed by the BOFC yearly. In particular, for safety reasons, driver qualifications and air-packs. This should be coordinated through the Policies and Procedures Committee. Manna to send Lisa Goosman an email.

Truck: Whelan reported chain damage on #441. Will determine if insurance is needed depending on the quote received.

Budget:

- Nezvesky stated that he, Manna, and Goosman went to the Board of Selectman meeting. Not being totally prepared for the discussion, Nezvesky attended the Board of Selectman's Meeting the following week. The BOS recommended the BOFC cut \$27K from budget. They suggested perhaps cutting from the budget as follows:

- \$11.8K from training; \$10.138K from Capital and \$5K from Contributions to Fire Companies.

Nezvesky stated that he will meet with the Budget Committee to determine where to make cuts and advise the BOFC and Chiefs.

- Nezvesky asked the BOFC to consider creating a Gear Committee which would include one person from each department, and 3 commissioners. This Committee would determine if we should buy or lease gear and air packs.

- Nezvesky requested that the BOFC assess if the Ambulance Corps should pay for their portion of the pension plan. If they do not pay, and their coverage cost rise, the BOFC will ask the town for more funds to cover the increase.

P&P – no report

Radio and Hydrant – no report

NUSAR:

McCarthy went to the hearing on Bill 6909 (Workmen's Comp coverage for the dive team). Once he has more information on the bill and next steps, he will advise the BOFC and Chiefs on how to support it getting passed.

Purchasing Agent Report for February – see attached report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tanker Truck Committee Report

Due to a price discrepancy, the Tanker Committee and a representative from 4-Guys Fire Trucks met to review the specifications netting an additional savings of \$7K. The bid was awarded to 4-Guys Fire Trucks.

Engine #111 Update

Pierce Manufacturing was awarded the bid for Engine #111. A prepayment has been sent.

New Business

Appointment of Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal

DFM

At the First Selectman's request, Manna meet with the FM's office to see where job responsibilities could be consolidated. It was determined that the Purchasing Agent position, currently held by Burton, will now be combined into a new position of DFM/Fire Administrator. 10 to 12 hours per week would be dedicated to the purchasing agent responsibilities along with any administrative work the BOFC may need. This position would report to the Chairman of the BOFC. This new position will take effect in July.

FM

As Acting Fire Marshal Frampton has been performing the responsibilities of the Fire Marshal's office effectively, it was decided to appoint him as the Fire Marshal. To fill his vacancy as DFM, it was determined that Chief Murphy will take over the DFM/Fire Administrator role.

MOTION: Brunetti made a motion to appoint Rich Frampton as the Town of Newtown's Fire Marshal.

Seconded: Whelan

Motion passed unanimously

A letter will be sent to the Town Clerk for the swearing in of Frampton as the Fire Marshal.

MOTION: Brunetti made a motion to appoint Steve Murphy as the full time DFM/Fire Administrator

Seconded: Bolmer

Motion passed unanimously

Training Funds:

MOTION: Whelan made a motion to approve Sandy Hook's training funds in the amount of \$2,624.00 for 2 FF1 classes in Brookfield; 24 CPR cards; 1 EMT Refresher and 3 FF Fit tests.

Seconded: Bolmer

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Brunetti made a motion to approve Hawleyville's training funds in the amount of \$5,444.05 for RIT State Class, attend FDIC International (in Indianapolis, IN); airfare to FDIC and hotel rooms.

Seconded: Reilly

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Nezvesky made a motion to approve Botsford Fire and Rescue's training funds in the amount of \$2,205.31 for registration for 2 members to attend FDIC; hotel costs and airfare for two members.

Seconded: Whelan

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Brunetti made a motion to approve NH&L's training funds in the amount of \$1,050.00 for Tactical Ventilation Class and Open Enrollment Forcible Entry Class.

Seconded: Nezvesky

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Whelan made a motion to approve NH&L's training request in the amount of \$8,396.73 for FF1 Training and a Smart Board E70 Projector and Laptop.

Seconded: Brunetti

Motion passed unanimously

Chief Halstead advised the BOFC that there needs to be a determination between capital items and what can be purchased for training. The Policy and Procedures Committee should research and recommend parameters to the BOFC.

Whelan discussed the replacement of Sandy Hook's electric blower.

MOTION: Whelan made a motion to approve the purchase of Tempest 16" Variable Speed Electric Blower in the amount of \$2,040.00 to come from the Equipment Repair account.

Seconded: Nezvesky

Motion passed unanimously

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Terry Hennessey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Hennessey
Secretary

NEWTOWN BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

PURCHASING AGENT REPORT

February ~~2016~~ 2017

For month of January

- 42 Hours worked
- 78 Emails were received
- 317 Emails were sent
- 17 Purchase Orders were issued
- 90 Phone calls/texts from departments & vendors

PO's were issued by the Town for Engine #111, Tankers 9, 229, and 559

SCBA flow testing is tentatively scheduled for 4/4 – 4/7.

Response Improvement Records for the 2nd quarter were processed and checks were delivered

I had a lot of correspondence with VFIS regarding our LOSAP program. This year's invoice was approximately \$20k higher than past years. Apparently when the program was set up Newtown Ambulance personnel were included with FD members. As costs go up, so do our fees. This will need to be addressed from a budget standpoint

I received all the invoices in one bunch for all the truck testing a couple of weeks ago. They originally came in without test results which I normally receive with the invoices, so I have not processed them yet. I received the majority of the test results today so I have begun to look through them. I have several issues with the record keeping associated with this testing facility.

Account Balances are as follows: