

TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2020 – 6:00 pm
Woodbridge Fire Department -**DIAL IN ONLY**

Present: *Chairman Elia Alexiades, Commissioner Karen Baldwin-Kravetz, Commissioner Bruce Mandell,(dialed in at 6:28pm), Secretary Mike Soufrine, Chief Sean Rowland, Fire Marshal Joe Cappucci Assistant Chief Chris Bahner, Joseph Crisco (Board of Selectman Liaison to the Fire Commission), Nate Case*

Absent: *Vice Chairman Michael Horton*

Call to Order

With a quorum (3 Commissioners present), Chairman Elia Alexiades convened the meeting at 6:18pm

Public Comments

None

Liaison Comments

Joseph Crisco thanked the FD for all the good work

Chairman's Report

Chairman Elia Alexiades also wanted to thank the FD for the serving the public in these times of great risk and committed to provide resources to the FD to do their job safely and effectively. He also urged everyone to dial into the Pre-budget Hearing tonight at 7:00pm

COVID -19 Update

Chief Rowland gave a summary of the State of CT, 20,000 covid-19 cases in CT, 1300 deaths. At this time there are 13 death related Covid-19 cases in Woodbridge. The FF are taking extra precautions when responding to nursing homes/assisted living centers. Extra supplies of PPE have been ordered, and the Fire Marshal is picking up PPE in North Haven. He continued that the FD has ordered an AeroClave Room Decontamination System (\$16,000) which should be in next month. The New Haven FD bought a similar system which will help stop the spread should the FD become contained.

Chief Rowland continued to note that he is on daily conference calls with sponsor hospitals, Governor, to keep abreast of the situation. Any calls that the FD responds to that has a known COVID case will require all FD personnel to take their temperature before entering and upon departure. The FF will be in protect gear and wash down after leaving. Discussion followed.

The FD has also opened an Amazon business account as emergency personnel facilities are given higher priority of essential supplies (sanitizer, masks, gloves). Chairman Elia Alexiades asked how these orders were being paid for and the Chief replied through the Town.

Currently 4 members of the FD are self-isolating at home.

Review Current Financial Statements

Year-to-Date FC Operating Budget and Capital Budget

The reports were not circulated prior to the meeting. Chairman Elia Alexiades asked that the May BOFC meeting should be held via ZOOM video online so the commissioners can view the report.

Fire Chief's Report – Fire Chief Rowland

Chief remarked that moral is good. Any FF over 60 years of age cannot respond to calls (currently that is 4 FF's)

Chief Rowland noted that the medical line budget item will be tight due to COVID related tele health conference call and technical supplies.

Engine 9- Out of service, currently in Cromwell, should be back next week.

Engine 3 – Being built now in Florida. The Chief has reviewed the pictures. This will be a challenge as normally the Chief and FM would travel to Florida to inspect the Engine prior to taking delivery. Discussion followed. Chairman Elia Alexiades noted that it is of critical importance to be on site to inspect the engine. Chief Rowland noted that delivery is scheduled for late May. He should have a better idea of logistics by next months meeting.

Fire Marshal's Report – Fire Marshal Joseph Cappucci

Per Chief Rowland, the FM is currently doing permits online as well as plan reviews. Inspections are still on pause. He is also doing clean up work in the FH.

WFD Activity Report – Assistant Chief Bahner

Assistant Chief Bahner noted that he has not been in the FH lately as the Chief wanted to limit number of people. He will have a report next month. Chief Rowland remarked that the calls have been slow, but there has been an uptick in MVA's (some were quite serious)

Executive session

None

Actions heard on Executive Session

None

Correspondence

None

Approval of minutes

With no objection, approval of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date

May 18, 2020

Adjournment

MOTION (SOUFRINE) to adjourn. (KRAVETZ) second.

With unanimous ROLL CALL APPROVAL:

ALEXIADES – In Favor

KRAVETZ- In Favor

MANDELL- In Favor

SOUFRINE_ In favor

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina O'Connor Clerk
Board of Fire Commissioners

Michael Soufrine
Secretary