

# *Town of Hamden Fire Commission*

## Minutes of the Special Meeting

October 15, 2014

**Attending:** Henry Candido, James O'Brien, Richard Reilly, Fire Chief Berardesca, Deputy Fire Chief Merwede

**Absent:** Michael Iezzi, Andrea Lobo

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Candido called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Candido entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings of July 14, 2014 and September 10, 2014. Mr. O'Brien motioned to approve the minutes of the meetings of July 14, 2014 and September 10, 2014, seconded by Mr. Reilly. *The motion carried unanimously.*

### **Old Business**

Mr. Reilly inquired about the negotiations were going. Chief Berardesca advised the Commission that there is some movement and that a couple of items need a little more discussion. Mr. Candido inquired if this will impact retirement decisions. The Chief isn't sure if it will or not. At this time he isn't aware who might be looking at retirement.

### **New Business**

Chief Berardesca reported that Station 2 call volume is up and that their response time continues to be excellent. Of course if the call is for upper Hamden station 9 will arrive first due to the proximity of the station. He is still working on the replacement ATV better suited for their needs and this will come from grant money. Mr. Candido inquired about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rescue vehicle and Chief Berardesca advised him that the vehicle is in service. They now have three vehicles and they are rotting them.

Deputy Chief Merwede advised the Commission that response times are on initial calls. The Department was recently called to help with a trench collapse rescue in New Haven near Southern CT State University. The Department brought their rescue trailer and with that equipment they were able to extricate a worker buried up to his chest in mud. Deputy Chief Merwede was very proud of the professionalism of the Hamden firefighters. Mr. Candido said he saw the story on the local news.

Chief Berardesca advised the Commission that the department received donations of 135 Smoke Detectors from Kidde and Home Depot. They will be distributed to those in need and to those the fire department discovers from a call that there are not Smoke Detectors in the home. CMED is staying on track. A bid waiver for a 2007 Rescue will be going out. Specifications for a new pumper are being prepared and the approximate cost will be \$500,000. Mr. Candido inquired what will be done with the old pumper and Chief Bearrdesca stated it will go to surplus.

Mr. Candido inquired about testing for promotion positions and new hires. There will be two openings for promotions, one Fire Marshal and one Superintendent of Apparatus. All positions will be tested for.

A brief discussion ensued pertaining to the 2015-2016 Budget being prepared for presenting to the Mayor in January 2015. Chief Berardesca gave a brief outline of what will be included in the Budget. There will be two new vehicles for the Fire Marshals office and a new position of an inspector for the office. The budget will also include a vehicle with a dual purpose a "Quint" ladder truck pumper. Electronic base recording data program for report preparation by the firefighters, quality control to help cut the cost of printing and storage of reports. Also there will be a request for two additional firefighters. Chief Berardesca will keep the Commission informed of the process and when he will be presenting his budget before the Council so they can attend the meetings.

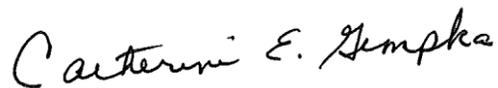
#### **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting is Wednesday November 12, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is held at the Memorial Town Hall first floor conference room.

#### **Adjournment**

At 6:47 p.m. Mr. Reilly motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. *The motion carried unanimously.*

Recorded by,



Catherine E. Gempka  
Substitute Clerk