

Town of Hamden Fire Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

June 10, 2015

Attending: **Commissioners:** Henry Candido, Eric Curtis, James O'Brien, and Richard Reilly. **Staff:** Fire Chief Berardesca and Deputy Fire Chief Merwede and **Clerk:** Patrice LeMoine.

Call to Order: Chairman Candido called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Candido requested a motion to approve the minutes from the April and May meetings. Mr. Reilly motioned to approve the April 8 and May 20, 2015 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Curtis and passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Fire Chief Berardesca presented the recent articles and the most recent article regarding two Hamden firefighters who saved a robin that was wrapped and tangled in the strings of helium balloons received a great deal of media attention and PETA posted the article on their website, which received over 8,000 viewers. PETA is now recognizing the Department with a "humanitarian to the wildlife" award.

Communication/Public Media: Press releases submitted to the local newspapers were distributed to the Commissioners prior to this evening's meeting.

Reports and Updates from the Fire Chief: Fire Chief Berardesca provided the Commissioners with a few updates. The Department holds a "smoke detector" awareness month and the Mayor asked if we can look for additional funds to support the purchase of more detectors. The Fire Chief will be approaching the Elks Club for support and the Fire Department provides to those residents who are unable to afford and install the detectors.

A new ATV arrived and some adjustments will be made to the emergency vehicle. The vehicle will be used at parks like Sleeping Giant, East/West Rock, etc.

We advertised for bids for uniforms/gear for the firefighters. We are in need of new gear and we want to work with a reputable vendor at a reasonable cost.

The Department is providing time to support the upcoming Special Olympics and CERT team.

CMed has dissolved their organization and the Town is going to contract with AMR. This new contract will be a cost savings to the Town.

Fire Chief Berardesca updated the Commissioners with the current openings for the Department.

Town of Hamden Fire Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 10, 2015, Page 2

After this evening's hiring, we will be down two positions. The Fire Inspector position was approved, and we look forward to holding the next set of interviews in the 2015-16 year.

Executive Session: At this time, Mr. Candido asked to move to Executive Session for the purpose of holding interviews for the hiring of one Certified Firefighter/EMT position. At 6:15 p.m. Mr. O'Brien made the motion to go into executive session for the purpose to conduct interviews. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reilly. All were in favor. At this time, Ms. LeMoine withdrew from the meeting.

At 7:08 p.m. Ms. LeMoine entered the meeting. Mr. Curtis made the motion to end executive session, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. The motion passed.

On behalf of the Fire Commission, Mr. Candido recommended to hire Zachary Deutscher as Certified Firefighter/EMT. With no objection, the recommendation was approved unanimously. Pending Mr. Deutscher's start date, his swearing-in ceremony will be announced at a later time.

New Business: Nothing to present.

Old Business: Nothing to present.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting is Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. This date is pending whether a quorum will be present.

Adjournment: At 7:11 p.m. Mr. O'Brien motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reilly and carried unanimously.

Recorded by,

Patrice A. LeMoine
Clerk for the Commission