

# ***Town of Hamden Fire Commission***

## **Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**June 8, 2016**

*Approved*

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**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 6:01 p.m. at Hamden Memorial Town Hall.

**Minutes:** Chair Candido requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2016 meeting. Mr. O'Brien motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Curtis seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence:** Nothing to present.

**Public/Media Comments on Agenda:** Nothing to present.

**Old Business:** Nothing to present.

**Election of Officers:** The election for officers of the Commission was held. The chair requested nominations from the floor. Mr. O'Brien nominated the present slate of officers to renew for another term. The slate presented is as follows:

Chairman:	Henry Candido
Vice-Chairman:	Richard Reilly
Secretary:	James O'Brien

No further nominations were presented. Mr. O'Brien made the motion to close further nominations. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Candido made the motion to approve the slate of officers presented for the 2016 to 2018 term. Mr. Curtis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

### **Fire Chief's Department Updates and Reports:**

1. The Commissioners received the department reports from May to June 8, 2016. The report from the Fire Marshal was presented and the Call/Activity report was disclosed, which reflects the monthly activity and response times for emergencies and calls.
2. Fire Chief Berardesca provided an update regarding the Fire Inspector position. The reason for the postponement in holding the interviews of this position is due to the MOA. Once the Department and the Town have incorporated the job responsibilities and work agreement in the Department's contract, they will move forward in the hiring of the position. The Fire Chief noted the decision of approving the hiring of an Assistant Fire Inspector position was denied. The upcoming of new hires for firefighter and paramedic positions will be presented to Personnel and Civil Services as vacancies become open. There is a number of staff on medical leave and one employee will soon retire. Soon the Department will be down a number of paramedic positions.

3. Fire Chief Berardesca gave an update to the Department's patient electronic reporting system.
4. The Fire Department has agreed to hire Foley Carrier Services to conduct drug testing among our personnel. Deputy Fire Chief Merwede explained the purpose of the policy and procedure for this service, which is part of the Department's, and the Town's, goal of holding a drug-free organization, also as a safety precaution, protecting our personnel and a precaution of any potential liabilities.
5. The new fire truck arrived June 7<sup>th</sup> and was delivered to the shop at Shepherd Avenue where the mechanics will prep the engine for the station house. The Fire Department hopes to get a new engine number 9; however, this is pending the outcome of the capital funding.
6. The press releases were distributed to the Commissioners, which carried a number of important and interesting stories that the Department provided. Chair Candido commended the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief on their great work and thanked them for copying them on the communications.

**New Business:**

Fire Chief Berardesca and Chair Candido held discussions regarding the Commission receiving badges. While there a spending freeze, the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief went through their budget and have been able to afford an order for badges for the Commission. The Fire Chief agreed that it is an honor to ask the members to serve on this Commission and support the Fire Department.

The Fire Chief gave a brief update regarding the Department's budget for 2016-17. The Department looks forward to conducting interviews over the next several months, as discussed earlier.

**Executive Session:** Nothing to present.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting is **Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Memorial Town Hall first floor conference room.

**Adjournment:** At 6:45 p.m. Mr. Curtis motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. The motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by,

*Patrice A. LeMoine*  
Clerk for the Commission

*Approved September 14, 2016*