

Hamden Fire Commissioners
Administration Building, in the Large Conference Room
Minutes of the Meeting of September 9, 2009

In Attendance: Michael D'Andrea, Richard Reilly, and Duane Wetmore. Absent: Henry Candido and Robert LaToracca. **Also in Attendance:** Fire Chief David Berardesca and Clerk for the Commission Patrice LeMoine.

Call to Order: Chairman, M. D'Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was confirmed and then the agenda was reviewed.

Minutes: M. D'Andrea requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2009 meeting. R. Reilly made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. D. Wetmore seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Correspondence: Fire Chief Berardesca distributed letters to the Commissioners. He highlighted those letters of appreciation for the Department's emergency services, as well as correspondence from various departments.

Department Report: M. D'Andrea asked the members of the Commission to review the activity reports from the Fire Marshal, Training/EMS and Repairs and Maintenance for the months of June, July, and August. The Fire Chief noted the Maintenance reports have more thorough information about the repairs. The reports will show the detail to repairs conducted in the Town's shop and the savings to the Town rather than outsourcing some of the repairs to the commercial vehicles.

D. Wetmore made the motion to approve the reports received this evening. R. Reilly seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Commissioners thanked Fire Chief Berardesca for his report.

Public/Media Comments on Agenda: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Personnel—The hiring of the Fire Lieutenant position is on hold indefinitely. The position is supported in this current fiscal year's budget; however, Mayor Henrici postponed the interviews. With no promotions in sight, there is no hiring for entry-level firefighters.

Status of Fire Headquarters—The meeting held last month with Town Council was disappointing. Fire Chief Berardesca appreciated the firefighters coming to the hearing. We had wonderful support from the Commissioners and Firefighters; but the Town Council dismissed the proposed development of a new Fire Headquarters on Dixwell Avenue. There was a concern that the Council may not have had enough supporting information for the proposed RFP for the building of the fire headquarters.

The Fire Department applied for a federal grant for the building of the fire headquarters. The request submitted is for \$3.5 million. We hope to receive a response about the grant very soon.

Executive Session: Nothing scheduled or to present.

New Business: Quinnipiac University students are back. This creates more medical responses to the students. The Fire Chief noted that York Health Campus opened for Senior Student Housing on Sherman Avenue. This new housing complex will create more activity for the Fire Department. The Student Activity Center, which is near to the TD Bank Sports Center, will be opening soon.

Discussion with Department Head: Nothing further to discuss.

Regular Meeting: The next Regular Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment: D. Wetmore made the **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. R. Reilly seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Recorded by,

Patrice A. LeMoine

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Clerk of the Fire Commission