

Town of Hamden  
**Fire Commission Special Meeting**  
Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Legislative Council Auditorium at  
Memorial Town Hall

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A special meeting of the Hamden Fire Commission opened on July 20, 2023.

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Nancy Hill, Samos Rankins, Gary Tinney, Chair, and Victor Mitchell. Also in Attendance: Clerk for the Commission, Patrice LeMoine, and Fire Chief Jeffrey Naples. Absent: Cherlyn Poindexter.

Also in attendance were Fire Battalion Chief Adam Bartlett, and Curt Andrews from Hamden Civil Services.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Tinney called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. A roll call was taken, confirming a quorum was present.
  
2. **Public Comment on the Agenda:** Fire Battalion Chief Adam Bartlett spoke about agenda item 9, the interview of applicants for Entry-Level Firefighters EMT positions this evening. He explained there is a necessity to fill the vacant position for Entry-Level Firefighter Paramedic. The current paramedics are working overtime due to coverage. In the past, the paramedics would work ten to fifteen years in the department; however, the amount of emergency calls per shift has created a number of paramedics to end their license renewal. Fire Battalion Chief requests the Commission to work with Fire Chief Naples to fill those upcoming vacancies and the current vacancy.
  
3. **Correspondence:** Fire Chief Naples presented two letters complementing the paramedics who were on duty for emergencies. He gave a summary of the emergency calls and said each officer and the supporting team did an outstanding job.
  
4. **Minutes:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Mr. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2023 meeting as presented. Ms. Hill seconded. The chair called for a vote:

N. Hill	yea	S. Rankins	yea
V. Mitchell	yea	G. Tinney	yea

The vote passed unanimously (4 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

5. **Message from the Chair:** No message.
  
6. **Department Reports:** Fire Chief Naples presented the call report reflecting on the emergencies for the last month.

- 7. Unfinished Business:** Fire Chief Naples gave an update on the Fire Captain and Fire Lieutenant positions. There is one Fire Lieutenant vacancy and no openings for the Fire Captain in the Department.
- 8. New Business:** Nothing to present.

At 6:18 p.m. Mr. Mitchell withdrew from the meeting.

- 9. Executive Session:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to go into executive session to conduct interviews for the hiring of three (3) Entry-Level Firefighter/EMT candidates. At 6:18 p.m. Ms. Hill motioned to go into executive session and was seconded by Mr. Rankins. The chair then called for a vote.

N. Hill	yea	G. Tinney	yea
S. Rankins	yea		

The vote passed unanimously (3 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

At this time, the Commissioners with Fire Chief Naples went into a private workroom to conduct the interviews.

**End Executive Session:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to end the executive session. At 7:58 p.m. Mr. Rankins motioned to end the executive session and was seconded by Ms. Hill. The chair then called for a vote:

N. Hill	yea	G. Tinney	yea
S. Rankins	yea		

The vote passed unanimously (3 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

**10. Vote on the hiring of three (3) Entry-Level Firefighter/EMT officers:**

**Motion:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion. Mr. Rankins motioned to hire Devon Waters to Entry-Level Firefighter/EMT position. Ms. Hill seconded the motion. The chair then called for a vote:

N. Hill	yea	G. Tinney	yea
S. Rankins	yea		

The vote passed unanimously (3 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

**Motion:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion. Mr. Rankins motioned to hire Zane Parise to Entry-Level Firefighter/EMT position. Ms. Hill seconded the motion. The chair then called for a vote:

N. Hill	yea	G. Tinney	yea
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S. Rankins                      yea

The vote passed unanimously (3 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

**Motion:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion. Mr. Rankins motioned to hire Kevin Russell to Entry-Level Firefighter/EMT position. Ms. Hill seconded the motion. The chair then called for a vote:

N. Hill	yea	G. Tinney	yea
S. Rankins	yea		

The vote passed unanimously (3 in favor, 0 against, no abstentions).

Fire Chief Naples noted the new hires start date is August 21, 2023.

**11. Adjournment:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rankins motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Ms. Hill seconded, and all were in favor.

**Special meeting:** Monday, July 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Hamden Memorial Town Hall.

Submitted by:

*s/Patrice A. LeMoine*  
Clerk for the Commission

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