

Wilton Fire Commission

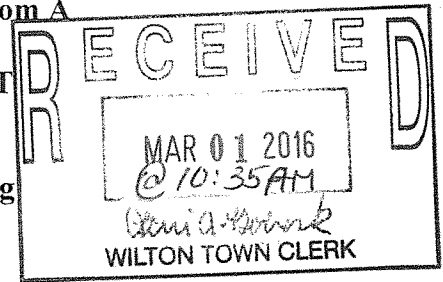
Town Hall – Annex Meeting Room A

238 DANBURY ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT

Town Hall– Room B

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

February 2, 2016



Present: Commissioners J. Casey Healy, Ross Tartell and Christopher Weldon

Others: Deputy Chief Mark Amatrudo, Captain Kevin Czarnecki, Lieutenant Bill Wilson, Firefighters, Dave Chaloux, Glenn Johnson, Kevin Plank, John Edwards, and Gary Fuoco, Fire Marshall Rocco Grosso, and Apparatus Supervisor Ralph Nathanson

A. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:07 am.

B. Approval of Minutes: Upon motions duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting held on January 7, 2016.

C. Monthly Reports:

- a. **Chief's Report:** The Chief's report dated February 1, 2016 is attached. Highlights included:
 - Conducted after action reviews (AARs) on Orems Lane and Propane Truck fires (noted in last month's report).
 - Deputy Fire Marshall Exam will be held on February 4 & 5, 2016. There are two eligible candidates.
 - Probational Firefighters – The officers have produced 6 month job performance ratings. The Chief will conduct one-on-one discussions to review and discuss job performance.
- b. **Deputy Chief's Report:** The Deputy Chief's report dated January 4, 2016 is attached. Highlights in the report included:
 - Two significant incidents: Snowstorm on 2/23 & 2/24, and dryer fire in Brookdale Assisted Living. Total incidents for the month were 119.
 - Training hours were 425 vs the projected 315.
 - Variable message signs - the units suffered battery and charging systems problems which caused them to emit Carbon Monoxide – they are being stored outside until they can be repaired.
 - Cad Screens – Screens have been installed in the radio room, administrative offices and gym.
 - Possible Missing Persons Search on 1/19/2016 – Emergency management searched for a possible missing person based on an erroneous distress beacon activation.
- c. **Fire Marshal's Report:** The Chief's report dated February 1, 2016 is attached. Highlights included:

- Rocco Grosso has been certified by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as the local open burning official and therefore, so appointed by First Selectman Vanderslice as the Town's Open Burn Official.
 - A new fee schedule was reviewed with the Commission. Fees were last updated in 2006. The Commission will compare the schedule versus neighboring municipalities and further discuss the fee schedule at the March meeting. \$17,440 in fees were collected in 2015.
 - Approximately 400 inspections were completed last year. A list of pending inspections was reviewed. It is hoped that the filling of the Deputy Fire Marshal position will eliminate the backlog.
- d. **Dive Team Report:**
- The Dive team is looking to develop a regional approach with neighboring towns. They believe that an approach patterned after Regional Hazmat would increase capabilities and positively impact cost.
- e. **Apparatus Supervisor's Report**
- There was a discussion about how to prevent any further deterioration in Engine 3. Discussions focused on using Engine 1 more in order to reduce the usage on Engine 3 until the new engine 3 arrives in November.

D. Old Business:

- a. **Nominations and elections for Board Chairman and Secretary**
- Commissioner Tartell made a motion to appoint Casey Healy as Chairman of the Fire Commission. Commissioner Weldon seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to make Casey Healy Chairman.
 - Commissioner Tartell made a motion to appoint Commissioner Weldon as Secretary. Chairman Healy seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to make Commissioner Weldon Secretary.
- b. **Station 2 Building Committee**
- The new Wilton Facilities Manager, Chris Burney, is now managing the project. The project schedule will be stretched out to enable the A&E firms more time. Chris Burney will be invited to update the Commissioners at the March meeting. Most of the members of the Building Committee have been named and are in the process of being interviewed and sworn in. The Commissioners wanted to make sure that the water quality issue will be considered as part of the statement of requirements for the project.
- c. **Dispatch**
- **The new issue report was reviewed with the Commission.** Next steps will be communication, training, and implementation. The Deputy Chief will review with other towns how they identify dispatch issues.
- d. **Fire Department Budget**
- The budget was presented to the Board of Selectman at their meeting on January 28, 2016. The FD will also add more detail to its research regarding firefighter staffing levels for future budget years.

E. New Business

- The potential membership the Station 2 Building Committee was reviewed. Captain Czarnecki has been appointed the the committee by the Board of Selectman.

F. Public Comment:

Firefighter Fuoco pointed out that there are still dispatch issues. As part of the discussion it was pointed out that the Fire Department is closely involved in hiring new dispatch personnel.


Apparatus Supervisor Nathanson referenced an article in the Greenwich Times that discussed firefighter staffing levels in Greenwich.

Lt. Wilson relayed the comments he has heard from the community in support of the Station 2 renovation.

- G. Adjournment:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:16 AM.

Next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 commencing at 8:00 am in meeting Room B at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Tartell", written over the printed name.

Ross Tartell

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