

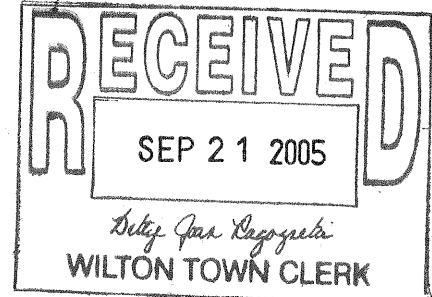


Fire Commission

236 DANBURY ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT 06897

**Wilton Fire Commission
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
Fire Department Headquarters**

August 2, 2005



Present: Commissioners Richard McCarty, Hesham El-abd and J. Casey Healy

Others: Deputy Chief George Peters (Chief Paul Milositz was out on vacation), Fire Marshal David Kohn, Fire Inspector Bill Meehan; Captain Karl Dolnier, Lt. Mike Michelsen, Lt. Kevin Czarnecki; Firefighters Brad Carlson, Glen Johnson, Dan Lewis and Bill Sampson; Wilton Villager reporter Patrick Linsey and first selectman candidate Brian Lilly

A. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes: Chairman McCarty, noting that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at approximately 1840 hours.

1. Chairman McCarty welcomed first selectman candidate Brian Lilly and offered to meet with him to answer questions that he had regarding the Fire Commission and Fire Department.
2. **A MOTION** was made by Chairman McCarty to approve the minutes of the Commission's monthly meeting held on July 5, 2005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner El-abd and unanimously approved.

B. Review of Monthly Reports

1. Deputy Chief's Report – The Commission reviewed the Deputy Chief's report dated August 2, 2005 (Volunteer Participation Reports for May and June were attached). Deputy Chief Peters reported that there were 148 responses by the Department during the month of July; including two of note: (i) mutual aid call to Ridgefield for a tanker truck explosion and (ii) motor vehicle fire in the parking garage at 50 Danbury Road. Deputy Chief Peters also reported that a new HVAC air handler had been installed at Station 1. The air handler was replaced for approximately \$13,000 when it was determined that the repair of the former air handler would cost between \$8,000 and \$9,000. Deputy Chief Peters confirmed that the low band radio that transmits the volunteer department page outs which failed on June 30th had been repaired. The Commission reviewed the Volunteer Participation Reports. McCarty opined that the changing demographics of the Town present a challenge in increasing volunteer participation; noting however that a full campaign needs to be made in order to ascertain whether there are volunteers out there.

Chairman McCarty noted that the hydrant at the 50 Danbury Road parking garage was not operational at the time of the motor vehicle fire (Captain Dolnier reported that D Shift had inspected the subject hydrant on August 2nd and found water flowing). Fire Marshal Kohn reported that private hydrants such as the one at 50 Danbury Road are the responsibility of the property owner to maintain. After much discussion it was the consensus of the Commission that a report be prepared listing the location of all public hydrants, private hydrants and private cisterns located in the Town together with a recommended plan to inspect them annually to insure that they are operational.

2. Fire Marshal's Report – Fire Marshal David Kohn reviewed with the Commission his Reports dated June 2005 and July 2005, including a quarterly update of code enforcement inspections in the year 2005 versus 2005. Fire Inspector Kohn also submitted for consideration a Fee Inspection Comparison chart, which chart compared the inspection fees that he recommends be adopted by the Town of Wilton versus those charged by Bethel, Danbury, Bridgeport, Darien and Trumbull. The Commission instructed Mr. Kohn to ascertain what procedure needs be followed in order to have the Board of Selectmen adopt his recommended fee schedule.

C. Old Business

1. Radio Communications and Dispatch – Commissioner El-abd inquired whether the Department was encountering any problems with the Police Department's encryption of its radio transmissions. Some members expressed concern that the encryption precludes a quicker response to calls and that information from by Police officers who are first on scene is delayed.

D. New Business:

1. Testing for Captain's Position – Deputy Chief Peters reported that the written exam will be given on August 9, 2005 and the oral exam will take place on August 16, 2005.
2. Educational Reimbursement – **A Motion** was made by Chairman McCarty to approve the request by Firefighter Carlson to be reimbursed \$341.80 for a course in Sprinklers and Fixed Extinguishing Devices taken at Norwalk Community College. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner El-abd and unanimously approved.

- E. **Adjournment:** At approximately 1945 hours, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on September 4, 2005 at Fire Department Headquarters.

Respectfully submit



J. Casey Healy
Secretary - Fire Commission