



WILTON FIRE COMMISSION

**Regular Meeting Minutes of
September 7, 2022
Held Via Tele-Conference**

Present: Commissioners Casey Healy, Terrie Schwartz and John Hall (joined after start of meeting)

Others: Fire Chief James Blanchfield, Apparatus Supervisor Richard Carlo, Jr., Fire Marshal Rocco Grosso and Director, Human Resource Sarah Taffel, FF John Edwards, Deputy Chief John Plofkin, Jr.

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:02 PM
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion duly made (Schwartz), seconded (Healy), the minutes of the Fire Commission August 3, 2022 Regular Meeting held and Special Meeting of August 19, 2022 were approved 2-0-0 at 5:02 PM.
- 3. Executive Session:** At 5:03 PM, Motion made (Schwartz) and seconded (Healy) to enter into executive session to interview a prospective deputy fire marshal candidate, and invite the candidate, Chief Jim Blanchfield, D.C. Plofkin and HR Director Taffel. – Motion carried 2-0-0.

Executive Session at 5:06 PM

Reopen Regular Session at 5:59 PM.

- 4. Motion (Schwartz) to Approve the Promotion of John Edwards to Deputy Fire Marshal to start September 12, 2022, seconded (Hall) at 6:04 PM. Passed 3-0-0.**

- Commission thanked DFM Kevin Plank for his service which will conclude in early 2023.

5. Monthly Reports:

- a. Fire Marshal: FM Grosso presented report. Brief discussion on FM monthly report; Busy month for Marshals, was in schools to complete inspections prior to openings, and some fire investigations. Also started commencing school fire drills. Stated it will be a big help to have John Edwards in early to keep disruption in the office to a minimum and maintain continuity.
- b. Deputy Chief: Discussed written report. Busy with training, as well as new recruit training (4 weeks). Reviewed with Captain Elliott training calendar and had some outside driver training come in. EMS operations group has approved our training schedule for EMS for next 14 months.
 - a. Acquired new SCBA cylinders at a very reduced cost
 - b. Completed PPE annual inspections, fit testing ongoing. Commissioner Hall inquired as to lifespan of PPE – 10 year service life (NFPA).

- c. DC Plofkin appointed Town Health & Safety Committee Chairperson.
- d. Intern's projects discussed – Street Guides, Condo guides.

c. Apparatus Supervisor: Rich Carlo reported – one breakdown on weekend – master drain valve failed – Was able to work with Fairfield Fire Dept. to acquire the part. Written report submitted.

6. Fire Chief Report: Brief discussion on written report.

- Call volume increased for month.
- Run Cards updated; Commissioner Schwartz questioned coordination of run cards with PD.
- \$100.00 gift received for FD Gift fund from Marcy H. Wolfe
- State Radio System update given. – Did site visits at towers.
- Portable radios updated to include Redding's new frequencies as well as update our software to update portables in house, will lead to cost savings.
- New hires working through probationary training, going on shift 9.12.22. One prospective hire going through background.
- Two firefighters out on injury
- Admin Secretary Cathy Horn retiring in September 2022. – Replacement coming from Tax Assessor's Office, Pamela Haas. Will have some overlap to help train Ms. Haas.
- 9/11 Ceremony discussed.
- Discussion had on certain budget line items, Longevity, EMT-Allowance, Wellness.

7. Unfinished Business:

A. Facilities:

- i. HQ Kitchen-Status-delayed, possible an October start date.
 - 1. Leak in Bays
 - 2. Made proposal to enclose Apparatus Supervisor's work place. In hands of Chris Burney.
- ii. Station 2 Updates- working on outstanding issues
 - a. Windows, Doors, Water issues, floor grates.

8. Public Comment: Discussion on decision to not send next hire to Connecticut Fire Academy. FF Chaloux read statement from Local 2233. Discussion ensued.

9. Adjournment: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

J. Casey Healy

J. Casey Healy, Chairperson
Fire Commission