



WILTON FIRE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2021 HELD VIA TELE-CONFERENCE

Present: Commissioners Casey Healy, Terrie Schwartz and John Hall.

Others: Chief Jim Blanchfield, Deputy Chief John Plofkin, Firefighter Dave Chaloux, Fire Marshal Rocco Grosso, Chief John Lynch and Director of Human Resources, Labor Relations and Administrative Services Sarah Taffel.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at approximately 5:52 p.m.
2. **Action on consideration of extending offer of employment for Apparatus Supervisor Position.** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to extend a conditional offer of employment to a candidate for the vacant Apparatus Supervisor position.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the Fire Commission's March 3, 2021 regular meeting and March 22, 2021 and March 24, 2021 special meetings were approved 3-0.
4. **Monthly Reports:**
 - A. **Fire Chief:** The Commissioners discussed the Chief's Report for the month of March 2021. Meetings held during the month focused on new radio and records management systems. The Chief reported many meetings are starting to move to a hybrid model, via Zoom or in-person.

The CDC continues to make changes on a near daily basis to its COVID guidelines. The Department is keeping up with those changes. Updates to Wilton's back-to-work policies are being discussed Town wide. The Department continues to be healthy.

Ongoing maintenance and repairs are being made to apparatus and equipment. Delivery of the new Car 1 has not been scheduled as Ford has experienced production delays.

*Minutes have not been reviewed by this Board and may be subject to revision in future minutes.

Testing for the 6 individuals who applied for the open Captain position has been scheduled for April 19th and 20th. Open position on the HazMat team has been filled.

The Chief made a presentation to the Board of Selectmen regarding the FY22 budget, which included a replacement ladder truck. The Board approved the replacement apparatus, to go to the Board of Finance for recommendation.

Good progress was made during March regarding the kitchen at Headquarters. Progress regarding Station 2 renovations hopefully in April.

CERT will have a larger, organized storage space at HQ. The Department underwent risk analysis training and a safety review of the firehouse was conducted by CIRMA. A full report will be forthcoming. As requested by Wilton Meadows, the Department participated in its recent loss of life ceremony.

- B. Deputy Chief:** The Commissioners discussed the Deputy Chief's Report. Training for March focused on rapid intervention training for downed firefighters. The home at 230 Ridgefield Road was used for realistic training for 10 days in conjunction with the Police Department. The experience was very valuable to the firefighters.

Upgrades were made to the identification of large area search ropes, the incident command board, ladders and the training classroom. Radiation meters were sent for calibration and testing of other meters was completed. A compliance library has been established as has a budget to identify the cost of annual equipment re-certifications. The administration continues to work to achieve standardized training in the firehouse.

Work continues on an emergency radio transmission should a firefighter experience a threatening or compromising situation without the time to explain the situation in a call.

- C. Fire Marshal:** There was a discussion concerning the 5 COVID-related overdue inspections and the approximately 50 inspections that were deferred.

- 5. Unfinished Business:** The COVID response, FY22 budget and facilities updates were contained in the Chief's Report.
- 6. New Business:** The Commission voted unanimously to approve Firefighter Montgomery's request for tuition reimbursement.
- 7. Public Comment:** None.

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- 8. Adjournment:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Casey Healy

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Fire Commission

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