



WILTON FIRE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 5, 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, and Director of Human Resources, Labor Relations and Administrative Services Sarah Taffel.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the Fire Commission's Executive Session Meeting and Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2021 were approved 3-0.
3. **Monthly Reports:**
 - A. **Fire Chief:** The Chief discussed his Report for the month of April 2021 and noted incidents and responses are beginning to reach 2019 and prior year totals. Alarms increased in April as expected. A productive meeting was held with the radio consultant hired by the Town to consider an upgrade of the current system, move to the state system or a hybrid system. Meetings were held in connection with improvements to the dispatch of mutual aid departments. A meeting with the Georgetown Fire Chiefs and a visit to the firehouse took place in April.

Engine 4 is back in service. A Truck 5 replacement committee is in the process of being formed. The Apparatus Supervisor posting process is moving along; the new Supervisor may begin work in June. Exams for the Captain's promotional process were completed. Scores are being tabulated with Human Resources and a list of candidates will be provided. The list will be kept and utilized should another opening arise. Meetings were held regarding other testing options.

The Department budget will be presented with the Town Budget at the May 15th Town Meeting. The Commissioners toured the Department facilities.
 - B. **Deputy Chief:** Meetings were held regarding the possible replacement of the RMS system. The monthly training topic was master streams. The Deputy Chief

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noted the great working relationship with ownership of the properties located at 40, 50 and 60 Danbury Road which provides the Department access to elevated platforms.

EMS training ongoing.. A meeting was held with the HVAC contractor to discuss improvements to the classroom environment. Eighteen people were certified as CERT volunteers with the Department's help. A training program for radiation meters was given. Testing and inspections continue in areas such as COVID supplies, PPE, Signal 99, sprinkler systems, generators and others.

Commissioner Hall thanked firefighters for their efforts in connection with the training of 18 new CERT volunteers.

C. Fire Marshal: There is presently 1 overdue inspection.

- 4. Unfinished Business:** As mentioned above, the Department budget will be presented with the Town Budget at the May 15th Town Meeting. Department of Public Works and Facilities Director Chris Burney will work with 2 possible contractors for the HQ work. Work in some areas at Station 2 may begin sooner than in others. Additional information will be provided. All options are on the table regarding Station 2 water options. Commissioner Healy requested an update regarding the status and likelihood of success of the various options and the person responsible for each.
- 5. New Business:** Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Fire Commission voted unanimously to approve Firefighter Tucker's request for vacation leave carryover of 84 hours for use by November 30, 2021. The Commission did not approve Firefighter Tucker's request for personal leave carryover of 24 hours.
- 6. Public Comment:** None.
- 7. Adjournment:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Casey Healy

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Fire Commission

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