

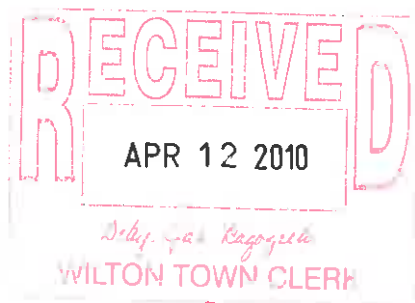


Fire Commission

236 DANBURY ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting Fire Department Headquarters

February 3, 2010



Present: Commissioners Richard McCarty, Gary Mecozzi and J. Casey Healy

Others: Chief Paul Milositz, Deputy Chief Mark Amatrudo, Lieutenants Michael Michelsen, Tom Cassin and Greg Kitik; Firefighters Mike Pryor, Gary Fuoco and Jeff Locher and Christian Camerota of Wilton Patch.

A. **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 1831 hours. A **MOTION** was made by Chairman McCarty to approve the minutes of the Commission's regular meetings held on September 1, 2009, December 1, 2009 and January 6, 2010, which motion was seconded by Commissioner Mecozzi and unanimously approved.

B. Review of Monthly Reports

1. Chief's Report – Chief Milositz reported that a replacement motor has been installed in the heating and air conditioning system (the "HVAC System") at Station 1 for the reason that the former motor was too small. The two new HVAC Systems are in place and appear to be operating effectively. The HVAC Systems will be inspected by Bruce Hampson of the Wilton Energy Commission and the vendor prior to final payment being made. Based upon concerns raised by Firefighters regarding the elimination of a separate HVAC system for the exercise room, the Department will monitor the effectiveness of the portable air conditioner that has been installed. In addition, the Department has asked the HVAC contractor for other ideas if that solution is not effective.
2. Deputy Chief's Report – The Commission reviewed the Deputy Chief's Monthly Report dated February 2, 2010. The Report noted that there were a total of 115 calls for the month of January (Fire and Alarm – 36; EMS Calls – 55 and All Other Calls – 24) bringing the call total for the year to 115. This represents a significant decrease in the number of incidents vs. January 2009. There were two significant incidents during the month: (i) January 25th – Mutual aid call for a commercial structure fire at 82 Main Street in New Canaan and (ii) January 28th – Motor vehicle accident with extrication on Ridgefield Road near Keelers Ridge Road. A total of approximately 435 hours of training were input during the month, including: (i) Firehouse Software training for the on-duty shifts; (ii) classroom training on Streetsmart Safety; (iii) Standard EMS training; (iv) cold water/ice rescue and cold weather dive team support operations; and (v) training on topics either assigned to or chosen by the company officers.

Firehouse Software training is continuing. Fire Inspector Rocco Grosso, the designated Firehouse Software System Administrator, and a representative of the Town Information Services Department are working with the regional Firehouse Software representative to resolve a continuing problem whereby software disconnects and has to be restarted in the middle of creating incident reports. The remaining significant issue to date is that there appears to be a separate piece of software that is needed from EmergiTech to interface with the Firehouse Software.

The Department continues to monitor the performance of the EmergiTech mobile software. The police department software correction is being field tested. The fire department software correction will be field tested in early March and the updated software with the system correction will be received around March 15, 2010. It appears that EmergiTech has repaired the problem that has prevented the Fire Department from going “live” with its Mobile Data Terminals.

In the process of completing the HVAC project, it became apparent that the Department’s existing 100 gallon electric water heater is extremely inefficient. The Department is in the process of obtaining price estimates for a tankless propane water heater that is more efficient and occupies less space.

The Department continues to analyze spending for the current fiscal year and remains within budgetary spending limits; including shift coverage/overtime spending.

3. Fire Apparatus Supervisor’s Report - The Commission reviewed the Apparatus Supervisor’s Monthly Report for January 2010, which Report noted that no apparatus were out of service for a significant time nor were there any major repairs completed during the month.
4. Fire Marshal’s Report – The Commission reviewed without comment the Fire Marshal’s December Report. The Report noted that winners of the fire prevention awards program were chosen and awards distributed by the Fire Marshal’s Office, with the local bargaining unit providing cash prizes to the winners.

C. Old Business

1. Budget Fiscal Year 2011 – The Department’s budget for the 2011 Fiscal Year is estimated to increase by 2.85% over the current fiscal year. When contractual increases for salaries, group insurance and retirement expenses are excluded, the 2011 Budget decreased by approximately ½% as compared to the current fiscal year. The Department presented its 2011 Budget to the Board of Selectmen on January 27th. In response to a question posed by the Board, Chief Milositz advised that greater cuts to the budget would result in a loss of manpower and therefore the inability of the Department to respond with a second engine or truck from Station 1. Chairman McCarty reported to the Board that the limited budget prevents the Department from pursuing projects such as Heart Safe Community and Storm Ready Town. The Department expects to hear from the Board of Selectmen sometime in April following the Board’s presentation of the overall Town budget to the Board of Finance; likely in April.
2. Regional Dispatch Grant Proposal – The grant request has been completed, which grant is for a nationally recognized consulting firm to come in and evaluate whether one or a number of combined/consolidated fire department dispatch centers is appropriate for Fairfield County.

D. New Business - No new business.

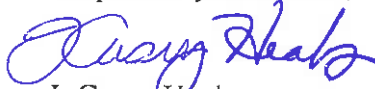
E. Public Comments

1. Lt. Michelsen noted that dispatch problems continue. A Dispatch Committee meeting will be held in February. The Dispatch Committee likely will discuss with Chief Milositz and Police Chief Lombardo the possibility of outsourcing the dispatch of Fire Department and emergency medical services calls. The Committee also will review a Homeland Security grant program for regional dispatch.

F. Adjournment: At approximately 1912 hours, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting of the Commission will be held on March 3, 2010 at Fire Department Headquarters; said meeting will be a regular monthly meeting commencing at 1830 hours.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Casey Healy

Secretary - Fire Commission