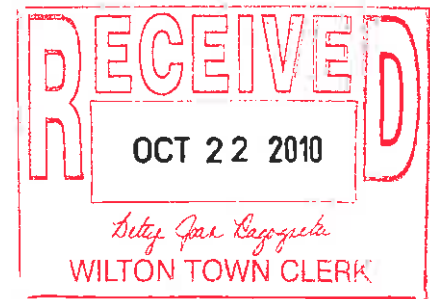




Fire Commission
236 DANBURY ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT



Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting
Fire Department Headquarters

August 10, 2010

Present: Commissioners Richard McCarty, Gary Mecozzi and Casey Healy

Others: Chief Paul Milositz, Deputy Chief Mark Amatrudo, Captain Kevin Czarnecki, Firefighters Pat Garber, Jeff Locher, Mike Pryor, Joe Bisenius and Dan Lewis and Director of Human Resources, Labor Relations and Administrative Services Sarah Taffel.

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 1832 hours.

B. Review of Monthly Reports

1. Chief's Report – The Chief reviewed a letter received by the Department from Wilton resident Jeffrey Busch of 19 DeForest Road dated July 23, 2010. Mr. Busch thanked the Department for the loan of a tank of compressed air which was used to oxygenate his fish pond during the recent power outage thereby saving his “ancient” fish.

The Chief reminded the Commission that the United Motorcycle Ride to benefit the Bridgeport firefighters who recently lost their lives while battling a structure fire is scheduled for August 29, 2010.

2. Deputy Chief's Report – The Commission reviewed the Deputy Chief's Monthly Report dated August 9, 2010. The Report noted that there were a total of 199 calls for the month of July (Fire and Alarm – 54; EMS Calls – 80 and All Other Calls – 65) bringing the call total for the year to 939 (Fire and Alarm – 226; EMS Calls – 400 and All Other Calls – 313). The increase in the calls for the month compared to the same month of the prior year was 43%. This was primarily due to the 30+ calls responded to during the storms on July 23rd. The significant incidents during the month were: (i) July 4th – Mutual aid dive team response to Westport for a possible lost swimmer; (ii) July 7th – Mutual aid to Westport for a structure fire on Post Road East; and (iii) July 23rd – The Department responded to over 30 incidents during the evening storms and all apparatus was on-duty assessing damage during the morning of July 24th.

Firehouse Software and Information Technology – Wilton Information Systems Director John Savarese has informed the Department that the Town Attorney is in the process of communicating with EmergiTech and will recommend a course of action to resolve the Department's problems with mobile data terminals.

Repairs and Maintenance – The repairs and maintenance projects scheduled at the end of the fiscal year are in the process of being scheduled. The contractor has been retained and a prioritized list of procedures developed.

Finance – The Department is awaiting final year-end adjustments by the Finance Department. It appears that the Department ended the year approximately \$20,000 below its approved budget.

Bridgeport Firefighter Funerals – The Deputy Chief reported that a large group of Department personnel attended the wakes and funerals of the two Bridgeport Firefighters. In addition, four Wilton firefighters staffed Engine 3 and protected the Town of Fairfield during the funerals, including responding to a structure fire. The Deputy Chief advised the Commission that he was privileged to be a part of the planning team for the funerals.

3. Apparatus Supervisor's Report - The Commission reviewed the Apparatus Supervisor's monthly report for July 2010, which Report noted that the SCBA & SCUBA air compressor required emergency repairs (cracked mid-stage compressor head) underscoring the need for a complete rebuild. A quote was received for a rebuild and the cost is consistent with the amount budgeted. The annual inspection of Truck 5 was performed; T-5 was degreased prior to inspection, cleaned and lubed after inspection, and new engine oil and filter, fuel filters, an air filter, and fan and air conditioning belts were installed.
4. Dive Team Report – Captain Czarnecki advised the Commission that the Dive Team met its goals for the year; including certifying dive team members. The Dive Team has been training on Westport's underwater sled which allows a search of an entire beach or pond in a much quicker time than placing diving team members on a line.
- C. **Firefighter Hiring** – Hiring is in the final phase. Written testing was completed on July 30th. The top 12 candidates began oral testing on August 9th. Captains from Norwalk, Wallingford and West Shore (part of West Haven) conducted the oral boards. Packages for the top 3 scorers were received in advance of the August 12th interviews of the top 3 scorers. The candidates will be interviewed in alphabetical order. The swearing in is scheduled for September 3rd.
- D. **Promotional Process** – The Commission reviewed the Promotional Process Policy and Procedures for the vacant Lieutenant's position. The Chief distributes a "package" which outlined the promotion process and procedures.
- E. **Dispatch Update** – An evaluation of whether to move to an outside agency continues. The Chief and Deputy Chief met with Police Department Chief Mike Lombardo and the head of Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corps to discuss same. The Department is looking at: (i) CMED located at Bridgeport Hospital; and (ii) Combined dispatch with Westport, New Canaan and Ridgefield in a place such as Westport which has infrastructure.

F. Old Business

No old business.

G. New Business

No new business.

H. Public Comments

None

I. Adjournment: At approximately 1924 hours, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held on October 6, 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