

The Chester Board of Fire Commissioners held its regular meeting on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, at the Chester Fire House, 6 High Street, Chester, CT. In attendance were Joel Severance, John Divis, Charlene Janecek and Peter Zanardi. Ex-officio members present were Fire Chief James Schaefer, Fire Marshal Richard Leighton, Fire Investigator David Roberge and First Selectman Ed Meehan. Chairman Severance called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2015
Motion by Divis, second by Zanardi, to approve June 17, 2015 Minutes as written. Unanimously Approved with Janecek abstaining. Motion Carried.

Item 2: Audience of Citizens - none.

Item 3: Report of Fire Marshal
Monthly Activity Reports for the months of May, June and July were distributed and reviewed. The Fire Marshals noted they are still talking with Chester Village West. Fire Investigator Roberge noted the quantity of calls are too numerous. Fire Marshal Leighton noted they have an archaic system that can only be reset by the alarm company. There are a lot of false alarms within the system itself. Chairman Severance distributed a new emergency operations plan to the Fire Marshals.

There was a brief discussion regarding multi-family on Railroad Avenue.

Item 4: Report of Fire Chief
Chief Schaefer noted the roof on this portion of the Fire House has been completed. It came in under budget. Waiting for invoice. Shingles were added to the parapet. Not sure what they will do with the rest of the money, maybe a new boiler.

Chief Schaefer noted the tanker is out of service, had some rust issues. It should be ready end of the week.

Chief Schaefer noted everything is going smoothly and he is getting organized.

Chairman Severance will get Chief Schaefer a copy of the emergency operations plan.

Item 5: Report of First Selectman

First Selectman Meehan noted the Board of Finance is doing its end of year transfers.

Meehan reported on the following items -

- Hydrant in front of Chesterfields was moved.
- Eversource is finishing up wire transfer work on Main Street. Should be done tomorrow morning. Comcast and Fibertech will come in after that. Frontier is scheduled for early September.
- Testing of the bulkheads on either side of the Main Street Bridge will be done. Three parking spaces will be out of commission during that time.
- The Main Street Project from Laurel Hill Cemetery to School Lane is about 40% complete. The culvert work has been done. The water main has been switched out. The granite curbing needs to be finished and then reclaim the road. They will also do some reclaiming from School Lane to Middlesex Avenue. The contractor has been trying to accommodate the needs of the Post Office, Jacobson & Associates and the homes in the area.

Item 6: Report of Emergency Management Director

Chairman Severance asked if anyone was going to the fire training coming up at the marina. There will also be an exercise in the afternoon.

Chairman Severance briefly reviewed the Emergency Management Planning Grant. There was a missing invoice which he sent back to them.

Chairman Severance noted he will follow up on the purchase of the drone.

First Selectman Meehan asked if the Emergency Plan to 2014-15 has been approved. Chairman Severance replied yes.

Item 7: Financial Report

(a) 2014-2015 Budget

Fire Chief Schaefer noted the budget went a little over, but they earned another \$30,000 from Ambulance runs.

(b) 2014-2015 Fire Marshal Budget

Fire Marshal Leighton noted they saved the Town \$744.00.

(c) 2015-2016 Budget

Chief Schaefer distributed copy of the 15-16 Budget Breakdown as of this date. Almost 12% of the budget has been used. They are trying to do some equipment maintenance. Equipment Maintenance line item will probably be at about 50% at the next meeting. Schaefer further noted Regular Payroll is fully funded this year.

(d) 2015-2016 Fire Marshal Budget

The 2015-2016 Fire Marshal Budget to date was distributed. Fire Marshal Leighton noted they bill quarterly for their services. He also noted funds for a Deputy have been removed from the 2015-2016 budget.

Item 8: Old Business - none.

Item 9: New Business

First Selectman Meehan noted Chief Schaefer has asked for release of \$45,000 for apparatus. The Board of Selectmen will recommend this to the Board of Finance at their meeting tomorrow night. A Special Town Meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2015.

Item 10: Adjournment

**Motion by Zanardi, second by Janecek, to adjourn at 8:28 PM.
Unanimously Approved. Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary