

The Chester Board of Fire Commissioners held its regular meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2014, at the Chester Fire House, 6 High Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Joel Severance, Rick Schreiber, Charlene Janecek, John Divis and Peter Zanardi. Ex-officio members present included Chief Charles Greeney, Jr., Deputy Chief James Grzybowski, Fire Marshal Richard Leighton, Fire Investigator David Roberg and First Selectman Ed Meehan. Chairman Severance called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2014

Motion by Divis, second by Zanardi, to approve February 19, 2014 Minutes as amended. Unanimously approved. (please note for the record the Recording Secretary was unclear how the minutes were to be amended so this will be taken up again at the next meeting.)

Item 2: Audience of Citizens – none.

Item 3: Report of Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal Leighton distributed and reviewed the Monthly Activity Report for February 2014.

Fire Investigator Roberge briefly reviewed the deep fryer installation at St. Joseph's Catholic Church as well as a couple of other issues. He noted the fire alarm system is not external.

Fire Investigator Roberge briefly reviewed the Winter Carnival noting everything went pretty well. He noted the Fire Marshals would like the opportunity next year to meet with whoever is in charge ahead of time during the planning stages.

Fire Marshal Leighton and Fire Investigator Roberge reviewed the recent structure fire at Pattaconk Yacht Club. They submitted some bills for fire investigative expenses incurred. Fire Marshal Leighton noted there is no specific line item for these type of expenses and consideration should be given to adding such a line item. Fire Marshal Leighton disclosed for the record his wife was one of the insurance agents relative to this matter. The other agent was Archambault Insurance from Chester. He was advised a claim number would be available shortly. **Motion by Schreiber, second by Janecek, to approve for payment bills submitted by Fire Marshal in connection with recent structure fire. Unanimously approved.**

It was noted there is a recent Public Act pending to take the lifetime appointment away from the Fire Marshal and put appointments for Zoning Enforcement Officer, Building Official and Fire Marshal under the Board of Selectmen. This would mean the Board of Fire Commissioners would no longer be over the Fire Marshal.

Fire Marshal Leighton distributed copies and reviewed the Uniform Relocation Assistance Act in detail. First Selectman Meehan asked if it would be the Fire Marshal or Building Official that handles these matters. Leighton replied it could be either one. Roberge suggested everyone review this document and ask questions at the next meeting. It was noted this does not pertain to house fires.

Item 4: Report of Fire Chief
Chief Greeney apologized for not attending last month's meeting. He reported the Ambulance is running non-stop.

Chief Greeney briefly reviewed the recent structure fire at Pattaconk Yacht Club. He noted it was a pleasure working with Fire Marshals Leighton and Roberge.

Chairman Severance noted he was quite impressed with the way Chief Greeney handled the fire scene with 4 ladder trucks, several engines and pumpers.

Chairman Severance asked if the call volume for last year was available. Deputy Chief Grzybowski noted the number is in the 700's.

Chairman Severance turned over Title 3 Reports about Hazardous Materials to Chief Greeney.

Chief Greeney reviewed the proposed additional parking area for the Fire House. This would make the old stairwell usable again. First Selectman Meehan asked about lighting and if no lighting is planned, there should at least be a conduit for future use. It was noted they are looking for approval so they can move forward and go to the Board of Selectmen. They will add lighting, drainage and elevations to the plan. **Motion by Zanardi, second by Schreiber, to approve going forward with the planning of additional parking. Unanimously approved.**

Item 5: Report of First Selectman
First Selectman Meehan invited all to the Board of Finance Workshop tomorrow night. Statistics on call outs would be helpful if available. Chief Greeney noted they have transferred \$100,000 back to the Town of Chester.

First Selectman Meehan suggested putting a little more in the Fire Marshal Supply Line Item for contingency. Fire Marshal Leighton noted he would rather see it be a separate line item. Leighton noted money was taken out of the Supply Line Item last year because both he and Roberge are individual contractors and have their own equipment.

Item 6: Report of Emergency Management Director
Chairman Severance noted the Local Emergency Planning Committee interviewed two individuals for the office of Emergency Management. He also noted there is a

freshet risk this year from snow cover up north that was above normal.

Item 7: Financial Report

(a) 2013-2014 Budget

Chief Greeney noted the 2013-2014 Budget was on track. No issues.

(b) 2013-2014 Fire Marshal Budget

Fire Marshal Leighton noted nothing has been spent from the Fire Marshal Budget since last month. Everything is the same.

(c) 2014-2015 Budget

Chief Greeney reviewed the Capital Budget for 2014-2015 which included Ambulance and Truck Replacement. **Motion by Schreiber, second by Divis, to approve the 2014-2015 Capital Budget in the amount of \$105,000. Unanimously approved.**

(d) 2014-2015 Fire Marshal Budget

It was noted the 2014-2015 Fire Marshal Budget was discussed last month.

Item 8: Old Business – none.

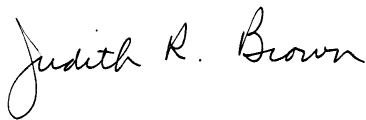
Item 9: New Business

Fire Marshal Leighton commended Chief Greeney and Deputy Chief Grzybowski for their handling and cooperation during the recent structure fire at the Pattaconk Yacht Club.

Item 10: Adjournment

Motion by Schreiber, second by Janecek, to adjourn at 8:55 PM. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary