

The Chester Board of Fire Commissioners held its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at the Chester Fire House, 6 High Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Joel Severance, Rick Schreiber, John Divis, Peter Zanardi and Bettie Perreault. Ex-officio members present included Fire Chief John Brainard, Assistant Chief Kimberly Brainard, Fire Marshal Richard Leighton and Fire Investigator David Roberge. Chairman Severance called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes of October 25, 2017

Motion by Schreiber, second by Zanardi, to approve October 25, 2017 Minutes amended as follows – Under Item 6: Report of Emergency Management Director, 3rd bullet, correct to read, “The new DEEP coordinator for the Coast Guard's Harbor Master program...”. Unanimously Approved with Perreault abstaining.

Item 2: Audience of Citizens – none.

Item 3: Report of Fire Marshal

The Fire Marshal's Monthly Activity Report for October 2017 was distributed and reviewed. Fire Marshal Leighton noted October and November are slow months. Discussion ensued regarding changing doors at Chesterfield's and the cost of police coverage for the Winter Carnivale.

Item 4: Report of Fire Chief

Fire Chief Brainard reported on the following -

- Bushes in front of the fire house were overgrown and removed by the Town Crew. Boulders and small rocks were put around the building and the spot light put up where it says Chester Fire House. Fire hydrants were sanded and painted and a new chain installed around the grass area. Danny Roscho power washed the whole building as well as the rocks. The Chief has extended thanks to Danny.
- Trucks are going to D.O.T. in Old Saybrook for inspection. The brush truck quit during the last storm and going to West Main Service this week to be fixed.
- Small problem in the Men's Room with a bad smell. Called in a plumber to see what's going on.
- The mezzanine to be worked on. Had inspector looking at it to see what needs to be done.

- Still following up with Trustees on the boiler situation.
- Blue Chief's car will stay here. Chief Brainard will take the duty officer car.

Item 5: Report of First Selectman – no report.

Item 6: Report of Emergency Management Director

Chairman Severance noted he attended a Coast Guard New Haven Co-Op Workshop Exercise last week. They are working on the River Response Team. The Exercise was very good, all the Co-Op people were there. Of the 60 in attendance, only 3 Fire Department's were represented – Stratford, Guilford and Chester.

There was discussion regarding emergency shelters. Chairman Severance noted he sent information on the Generator Grant to John Divis. Fire Investigator Roberge noted it would be worth researching.

Item 7: Financial Report
(a) 2017-2018 Budget

Chief Brainard distributed the budget noting everything was right on track.

(b) 2017-2018 Fire Marshal Budget

Fire Marshal Leighton noted the FM Budget was the same as last month, didn't spend any money this month.

Item 8: Old Business – none.

Item 9: New Business

(a) OCTOBER STORM After Action Meeting with Eversource

It was noted there was an After Action Report meeting. The Commission needs to recommend to First Selectwoman Gister to request Eversource come in for an After Action Meeting with the Town of Chester. A list should be compiled to give to First Selectwoman Gister for this meeting. Fire Marshal Leighton distributed copies of an email "What You Need to know about eversource.com upgrades coming soon." Leighton noted the Legislature is holding meetings with Eversource and after that there will be public meetings. Bettie Perreault also noted Regional Planning is upset with Eversource too. Fire Investigator Roberge noted the experienced storm managers have retired in the last 2 years in New London, Madison and Berlin. Roberge further noted when the crews completed their 16 hour work time, there were no replacement crews. They also lacked storm chasers and back up support for

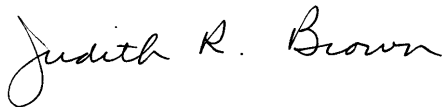
managers. The robo call system also crashed all the way up to Quebec. It took them 24 hours to regroup. Contractors came from as far away as Missouri. The entire Eversource grid in all 3 states was effected at the same time. New York State got hit and that overwhelmed regional centers without backup. Chairman Severance noted we also used to send people out to stand by at barricades to prevent people from coming through. Severance noted he will work on the list for First Selectwoman Gister to schedule a meeting.

Motion by Divis, second by Perreault, to not hold a December Meeting as there was nothing major going on. Unanimously Approved.

Item 10: Adjournment

**Motion by Schreiber, second by Perreault, to adjourn at 8:15 PM.
Unanimously Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith R. Brown".

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary