

Chester Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes, January 23, 2020 – SPECIAL MEETING
Page 1 of 2

The Chester Board of Fire Commissioners held a special meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at the Fire House, 6 High Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Bob Bandzes, John Divis, Bettie Perreault, Rick Schreiber and Peter Zanardi. Ex-officio members present were Chief James Grzybowski and Fire Marshal Dick Leighton. Also present was Deputy Chief Charles Greeney.

The Special Meeting was called to review and act upon proposed budgets for the Fire Department and the Office of the Fire Marshal. Proposed budgets were reviewed by the Commission at its January 15, 2020 meeting; no actions were taken at that time. Review by Officers of the Fire Department was pending and has subsequently been reviewed and approved.

Item 1: Call to Order

Chairman Bettie Perreault called the meeting to order at 5:56 P.M.

Item 2: Report of Fire Chief

Chief Grzybowski advised that he had presented the proposed budget to the officers of the Chester Hose Company and reviewed it in detail. Changes from the current fiscal year are increases in Regular Salary (\$7,000) proposed to address additional call activity and staffing; Equipment Maintenance (\$1,000) required to maintain aging vehicles; and a reduction for Outside Clerical (\$500). The total proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year is \$369,250. Anticipated revenue in connection with Ambulance services is anticipated to be \$215,000, resulting in a projected net cost to the Town of \$154,250. The proposed Capital Budget submitted provided detail of the Apparatus Replacement Schedule with detail for individual units.

On motion by Rick Schreiber seconded by Peter Zanardi, the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the Fire Department in the total amount of \$369,250, with additional proposed Capital funding, was unanimously approved for submission to the Board of Selectmen.

Item 3: Report of Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal Dick Leighton advised there was no change from the information that was provided at the Commission meeting on January 15. The total proposed budget requested for the Office of Fire Marshal for the fiscal year 2020-2021 is \$29,440 and includes contracted services, mileage, professional development and expenses.

On motion by Rick Schreiber seconded by John Divis, the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021 for the Office of Fire Marshal in the total amount of \$29,440 was unanimously approved for submission to the Board of Selectmen.

Chester Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes, January 23, 2020 – SPECIAL MEETING
Page 2 of 2

Item 4: From Members or Guests:

Chief Grzybowski reported that the response from the recent letter fund drive has, to date, generated over \$25,000, with exceptional donations from a few individual donors. Letters expressing appreciation accompanied many donations, showing, in the Chief's words, "giving from their hearts".

Item 5: Adjournment

**Motion by Rick Schreiber, seconded by John Divis to adjourn at 6:05 P.M.
Unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bettie Perreault, Chairman