

Easton Fire Commission

Regular Meeting

September 21, 2016

Filed subject to approval

Attendance: R. Cable, D. Katz, J. Miranda, T. Pajonas

Also in attendance: P. Neary, S. Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm

David Katz, a newly appointed commissioner, was welcomed to the Commission.

Marshal Neary presented the Fire Marshal's report. There were three burning permits and one blast permit issued in August. Preparation for the fall school safety programs is underway. There was a final Samuel Staples sprinkler repair inspection. The school converted to a dry system.

Chief Waugh distributed the incident report. There were 53 incidents and 20 incident types. To date, this year there have been approximately 600 calls. This summer, most calls were EMS calls, motor vehicle accidents and animal rescues. There is a problem with the radio output from Engines 3 and 4. The Department is working with Northeastern to help correct this problem. The Chief expressed concern about tree branches hitting and causing damage to fire trucks. There is a strong need for trimming, and in some cases, taking down dead trees. Public works has been notified of this situation. Two firefighters passed the Q Class, two are participating in the pump operating class in Redding. The Chief hopes to offer a pump operating class in Easton in March 2017. The Chief participated in a tactical EMS class for active shooters. Based on class information, he will work on purchasing new equipment for Engine 3. The Chief is considering updating the current fire software program or possibly purchasing a new one, Fire House. He will attend a two-day course offered by the current software vendor before a decision is made. The current phone system is not working as intended and keeps crashing. The chief is looking at applying for a LOCF grant to replace the current system. The Engine 4 replacement committee held its first meeting. The committee wants to purchase a solid, dependable engine and is willing to consider several different vendors in addition to Pierce. The committee is discussing whether the tank should hold 1,000 or 1,500 gallons of water. The Chief discussed the town's new purchase ordinance. He may be purchasing new firefighter gear from Globe. Gear needs to be replaced every ten years. The chief said that Trumbull shares the low band frequency with Easton. Recently, Trumbull installed private lines so they cannot hear Easton; Easton can still hear Trumbull. The Chief was going to research the situation. The Chief said that the radio system is outdated and eventually would have to be replaced with high band. However, the cost to the town would be very high – possibly as much as \$750K to \$1MM. He mentioned this to the BOF on several occasions

Commissioner Pajonas motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Roberta Cable, Secretary