

**Board of Fire Commissioners**

**Town of Easton**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**December 20, 2017**

*Filed subject to approval*

Commissioners in attendance: D. Buchanan, D. Katz, J. Miranda

Also in attendance: Fire Marshal P. Neary, Chief S. Waugh

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

The reading of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2017, having been distributed to all Commissioners, was waived, and approved by motion of Comm. Miranda, seconded by Comm. Katz, without dissent.

Chief Waugh delivered his report, indicating 36 calls in November. He anticipates that total calls for 2017 will be down significantly from 2016, possibly do to fewer storms, increased vacant houses, and the Department working with residents to reduce alarm malfunction calls. He is still waiting for a response from the vendor on questions about the Engine 2 repair costs. The purchase of is moving forward with the approval of the costs by the Board of Selectmen. Planned training was reviewed and the increased costs involved in Firefighter 1 and CPR recertification, largely due to reduced State funding for training, was noted. No events in the Cell Tower program have affected the Department.

The Volunteer Company's Open House was well attended, but no new leads for firefighters were forthcoming. A brief discussion of the need to revamp our efforts in that area, including the level of incentives offered, ensued. Budget preparation for next year. He presented a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Finance, dated December 19, 2017, he had received, which was not distributed simultaneously to the Commission. The Chief indicated has already begun the budget preparation but was concerned that all information may not be available to present a final budget to a regular meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> may be impossible. The Department is switching to Spotted Dog for its cell phone dispatch distribution system.

The handling of the depletion of the Maintenance Account in this year's budget was discussed. At present, this situation does not require special action and can be managed in the standard processing procedure.

FM Neary presented his report, indicating no unusual activity. He did indicate that once again, the Public Fire Education activity was substantial with concentration in the Preschool groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm, a motion having been made by Comm. Miranda and seconded by Comm. Katz, and passed without dissent.

Respectively submitted

Commissioner David Buchanan, Chairman