

Board of Fire Commissioners

Regular Meeting

May 16, 2018

*Filed subject to approval*

Attendance: D. Buchanan, D. Katz, J. Miranda, J. Yeotsas

Also in attendance: S. Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm

Commissioner Miranda motioned to approve the April 18, 2018 minutes. Commissioner Katz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Waugh briefed the Board on the Strike Force response to Brookfield in response to the damage from Tuesday's storm. The Force consisted of contingents from Easton and other nearby departments. The Strike Force call was issued just before 7:00 PM and the members returned at about 4:00 AM Wednesday Morning. The incidents for the past month were summarized. The department has reached 181 incidents to date this calendar year, which is on par for total similar to recent years. The April 30th mock crash staged at Joel Barlow High School was well received. Fire, Police and EMS from both Easton and Redding were represented. The Chief is working on automatic mutual aid with Redding at Joel Barlow, and he indicated the successful crash presentation and other meetings with Redding first responders of late indicate that greater mutual support and cooperation is developing between the groups. The budget for next year was approved. The current budget should be sufficient to get us through the year barring a major unexpected expenditure outside of management's control. Due to the financial support of Easton's Volunteer Company, the Chief plans to purchase two thermal imaging cameras and eight basic portable radios. This support from the Volunteer's has been essential in keeping the Department reasonably current with modern developments. They have also completed the repainting of the spaces at the Fire House that are leased to the Town. Initial indications on the quote for the cost to change from low band to UHF are very substantial, which supports the need to coordinate with all user departments in Town, and make sure the Town has proper guidance in this area. Planned future drills were presented. The tree danger on our roads was brought sharply into focus by the Tuesday storm, especially with the two tree related fatalities experience in the State, and the damage encountered in Brookfield. The State work on Route 59 has blocked access to FD water sources and some turn around places used to keep responder vehicles off the road on accident calls. The Chief has contacted the State but has not yet received an indication of any adjustment in their plans.

Marshal Neary was unavailable as he was engaged in the emergency response underway in Brookfield.

Commissioner Miranda motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner David Buchanan, Chairman