

Board of Fire Commissioners

Minutes of Regular Meeting

October 16, 2019

*Filed subject to approval*

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

Also in attendance: S. Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

The Commissioners of the September 18, 2019 Regular Meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Miranda moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed.

No Fire Marshal's Report was given as Marshal Neary was unable to attend due to the threat of dangerous weather in the State.

Chief Waugh said there were 42 incidents over the last month. Two structure fires involving significant fire exposure were encountered and extinguished efficiently. There was adequate, rapid personnel response from Easton's Volunteers in each instance, and mutual aid from surrounding Departments was received. Maintenance of the fire engines continued over the month as some age-related repairs were completed. The management of Budget related issues that may develop from unavoidable repair expenditures are being discussed to ensure Town officials are aware of this matter.

Future Budgeting concerns were discussed, and the need to coordinate expenditures and long-range planning on issues that are interdepartmental in nature were discussed. These included radios and dispatch, construction of future housing for emergency services, and insurance ISO ratings, Volunteer participation encouragement, etc. Commissioner Miranda moved that the Commission commit to move forward gathering information on possible consultants, Study issues and costs for a coordinated, comprehensive study of Easton's needs and planning for future in emergency services related areas and inclusion in the next Budget funding for a study covering the involved departments. Commissioner Katz seconded. The motion passed.

The Chief presented the State Public Act No. 19-36, which increases the amounts permitted for our abatement program. Commissioner Buchanan moved that the we present a request that the Board of Selectmen modify Town Ordinance 86-2 to provide honorarium in amounts consistent with the increased limits of the new State legislation. Commissioner Katz seconded. The motion passed. Chief Waugh was directed to coordinate with other affected agencies and the First Selectman's office to accomplish this.

Comm. Miranda moved to adjourn, Comm. Yeotsas seconded, the motion passed at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner David H. Buchanan, Chairman