

Board of Fire Commissioners

Regular Meeting

November 20, 2019,

*Filed subject to approval*

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

Also in attendance: P. Neary, S. Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm. Commissioner Buchanan moved to add the 2020 dates of regular meetings to the agenda. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Buchanan moved to approve the meeting dates. Commissioner Cable seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Commissioners reviewed the October minutes. Commissioner Katz moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Miranda seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Marshal Neary presented the Fire Marshal's report. He discussed Deputy Fire Marshal Sherwood's successful efforts to obtain closure on the abandoned underground oil tank at Helen Keller Middle School. Commissioner Miranda suggested to invite Deputy Fire Marshal Sherwood to the January or February meeting to express the Commission's gratitude for his hard work.

Chief Waugh presented the Incident report. There were 50 incidents, and he expects the total to be between 530 and 540 incidents for the year. He discussed the status of the new Engine 4. He spoke to Marion and was told they were on schedule for an April or May delivery date. There was discussion on whether the Commission wanted to keep or sell the old Engine 4. He mentioned that the State is redoing recertification of the EMT license. This should come into effect in January. The new license will require continuing professional education and listing on the national registry for EMTs. Easton will be partnering with Fairfield. He expressed his concerns about the power lines that fell on Maple Road at 5:30 am on November 1. It took almost four hours for UI to arrive and deal with the live wires. In the meantime, it cost the Department money to keep the site safe. He was concerned with the poor communications and bottlenecks experienced with UI and Easton, among other towns in the area. He discussed the budget. Maintenance expense may be slightly over budgeted because of maintenance issues with Engine 1 and Engine 3. He mentioned that the Selectmen's meeting on Thursday, November 21, will discuss increasing the honorarium to volunteers. The Chief expressed on concerns about recruiting new volunteers and asked for suggestions and new ideas. Commissioner Cable suggested recruiting from the colleges, specifically Sacred Heart University. Commissioner Buchanan mentioned long term zoning changes.

Commissioner Buchanan distributed a list of topics to be researched by a hired consultant. He asked the Commission to review the topics and make suggestion. The Commission also discussed the ISO problem in parts of Easton.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Roberta Cable, Secretary