

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
October 21, 2020  
*Filed subject to approval*

Attendance: D. Buchanan, R. Cable, D. Katz, J. Miranda, J. Yeotas  
Also in attendance: S. Waugh, P. Neary, R. Klem, G. Frossin

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Commissioner Buchanan moved to approve the September minutes. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Waugh discussed the disposal of old engine 4. He stated there were three choices: sell it, donate it or hang on to it on the possibility that a station will be built in the north end. Donation may be difficult. He did not hear back from the Fairfield Fire School. He said that donating the engine outside our area could involve, among these things, expensive transportation costs. Keeping the engine for possible future is a possibility, but the Chief said the time for a north end station was at least three to four years away, and he was uncertain about the ISO impact. Marshal Neary said he may have contacts in ME who may be interested in the engine. The Chief favored selling the engine. He has been in contact with an agent in PA, who may be able to help with the sale. He is hoping to get 15K and ask the BOF to allocate the sale proceeds back to the department as part of the accrual to fund the purchase of a new Engine 1. Commissioner Buchanan made a motion to sell engine 4 and ask the BOF to allocate the proceeds of the sale to the Department for the accrual of a new engine. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The Chief discussed the timeline of the consultant. The First Selectman is overseeing this process. It has been stated that a report may be available within nine months after a qualified consultant was hired.

Last month, there were 35 calls for a total of 432 calls this year. There was a dramatic decrease in automobile accidents so far this year, likely due to COVID. One of the career staff is recovering from COVID, and has been out for 18 days. He will be working his first shift this week. Two volunteers were in contact with individuals with COVID and were quarantined. The Chief stressed staying careful and following the COVID protocols so not to impact the continuity of service to the community. Both the bonfire and Trunk & Treat were cancelled. The Department continues to monitor the draught. They are moving forward with the dry hydrant project. They continue evaluating the ponds and then, will determine the appropriate course of action and present this to the BOF. The Department is on budget for this fiscal year. The Chief discussed the issues with the new engine 4. Unfortunately, it leans to one side and the dealer was reluctant to fix it. Apparently there was a problem with the configuration, but the Chief was not told this when the engine was built. After much negotiation, the dealer will take responsibility to fix and pay for it. A few other items on the engine will be dealt with at a later time. Commissioner Buchanan expressed concern with going with the lowest bidder.

Commissioner Buchanan will be putting together the schedule for next year. Meetings will be the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm.

Marshal Neary presented the Fire Marshal's report. There were 7 permits, and 116 year-to-date. The Easton School Program was discontinued during COVID. There continues to be inquiries about fire pits. Also, there were a number of inquiries about underground storage tanks. Marshal Neary discussed a retirement ceremony for Lucy. It will be in the spring 2021.

Commissioner Cable moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Commissioner Yeotas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Commissioner Roberta Cable, Secretary

Zoom meeting link:

[https://pace.zoom.us/rec/share/lr1FxEO0GgZyWFqpPNHQ1rPC828IOHg1T5rbNOyIRZ97\\_KOGL2TPeSx7Ad8\\_\\_yIQ.vXgNqZBjOE8QzoL](https://pace.zoom.us/rec/share/lr1FxEO0GgZyWFqpPNHQ1rPC828IOHg1T5rbNOyIRZ97_KOGL2TPeSx7Ad8__yIQ.vXgNqZBjOE8QzoL)