

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 9, 2018**  
**“MINUTES”**

**Present:** Brett Salafia, Phil Visintainer, Eric Germain, and Darin Hurne

**Others Present:** Fire Chief Greg Voelker, Deputy Fire Chief Martin Swan, Fire Marshal Rich Klotzbier, and Fire Fighters Charles Spakowski and Dan Burdick

Chairman Salafia called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at Company #1 on Barton Hill Road.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentation: Rick Stanchfield from ACG:** Mr. Stanchfield was unexpectedly unable to attend the meeting; he will be put on the agenda for the May 14, 2018 meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** *Mr. Hurne moved to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2018 special meeting; Mr. Germain seconded. Voted 3-0-1 with Mr. Visintainer abstaining.*

*Mr. Visintainer moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 regular meeting; Mr. Hurne seconded. Voted 3-0-1 with Mr. Germain abstaining.*

**Public Remarks:** None

**Approval of Bills/Budget Report:** None

**Fire Marshal Report:** Fire Marshal Klotzbier's report is attached to these minutes.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Voelker's report is attached to these minutes.

**Communications:** Chief Voelker received two nice letters with donations included from the homeowner of the Knowles Road residence that burned in February, and from the homeowner directly across the street.

The Town Council approved the proposed changes to the awards program.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A) **Dry Hydrants:** Chief Voelker has not had the opportunity to speak with Public Works (PW) Director Michelson yet. There was discussion on the Hyde Park hydrant, which is known that PW cannot fix. Quotes will need to be received from contractors. The hydrant on Middle Haddam Rd. across from Cobalt Lodge was also discussed; this is on private property. It is believed that PW can fix this one, but first it needs to be determined if an easement exists, or if the homeowner is open the town getting one or working on the hydrant. The Chestnut Hill hydrant was also discussed as another priority.
- B) **Fire Police Recruitment:** Chairman Salafia is still waiting to hear back whether the differences in compensation for the awards program for FP that are recruited from outside the department is legal. Chief Voelker is ready to start recruiting as soon as it is confirmed. This item will be on the May meeting agenda.

**New Business:**

- A) **Trailer Purchase:** Chief Voelker received quotes on two trailers that are almost exactly the same, both new with included warranty. He would like to purchase the less expensive trailer

at \$6,500 (the second quote was for \$8,500). The trailer is 18' x 8.5' with sufficient roof clearance to put the UTV in. There was discussion on movement of funds: there is about \$20,000 in the trailer account (C1816), after this purchase there would be about \$13,500 left. Chief will utilize funds in the operating budget to get the trailer lettered, lighted, outfitted, etc. The rest of the funds in the 1816 capital account could then be moved to buy the UTV, which has gone up in price. The highest price that it could be is \$29,060.80 though the Chief thinks it may be less.

*Mr. Hurne moved to purchase the trailer from B&H Trailer & Plow in Plainfield for \$6,495.00 from account C1816. Second by Mr. Visintainer. Voted 4-0.*

*Mr. Hurne moved to have Chairman Salafia request that the Town Council reallocate \$13,500.00 from the trailer fund (1816) into the UTV fund (1818). Mr. Germain seconded. Voted 4-0.*

**Other:** Chief Voelker stated that the ISO rating was updated and received. We are still rated 6, which is the best that we can be rated without a hydrant system in town.

Mr. Hurne asked about the project list for the fire houses. It has not been updated, though some work on the list has been completed. Chief Voelker with touch base with the Company Captains for an update.

Chief Voelker mentioned that there may be an upcoming expense for Co#3 as it is believed to have taken a lightning strike. The generator, alarm system and transfer switch are not working.

At this time a brief recess was taken to try and contact Mr. Stanchfield. There had been no communication from him in regards to missing this meeting, which is unusual. Chairman Salafia attempted to contact him with no result. He will be invited to the May meeting.

**Adjournment:** *Mr. Hurne moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 P.M.. Mr. Visintainer seconded. Voted 4-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti  
Recording Secretary