

# BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION

## Regular Meeting

August 14, 2023

## MINUTES

**Present:** Phil Visintainer, Darin Hurne, and William Abbott

**Absent:** Darius Ledas and Eric Germain

**Others Present:** Fire Chief Robert Rainville, Marty Swan, and Greg Voelker

**Call to Order:** Board Member Hurne called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. at Company #1 firehouse.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

### Approval of the Minutes

- a. **July 10, 2023:** *A motion was made by Mr. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Visintainer, to approve of the July 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes with the changes to change the sentence under Dry Hydrant Follow Up under Unfinished Business to read "We are not sure what steps to take going forward. One idea was to put a manhole cover in second tank, rear one, so access could be made. The company Corrttech never said they would do it. It was brought to the commissioners for their thoughts." Also, to fix that it was two days after the tank was filled not one day for the water to all leak out. The last change would be the dollar amount voted on under New Business for the stipend from \$3,000 to \$2,500. Voted 3-0 in favor.*

**Public Remarks:** None

**Nomination and Election of Chairman:** *A motion was made by Mr. Visintainer, seconded by Mr. Abbott, to nominate Mr. Hurne as Chairman. Voted 3-0 in favor.*

**Nomination and Election of Secretary:** *A motion was made by Mr. Hurne, seconded by Mr. Abbott, to nominate Mr. Germain as secretary. Voted 3-0 in favor.*

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

**Fire Marshal Report:** See attached.

**Fire Chief Report:** See attached.

**Communications:** None

### Unfinished Business

- a. **Dry Hydrants Follow Up:** Work was done on the Seven Hills dry hydrant. The Flannery Road underground tank has storm drains leading to it. It was suggested to contact

Corrtech to inquire about them checking the tank as well. The members also discussed the need to inquire about fixing the tank with public works.

- b. **Walnut Ave Water Source Problem:** The members are waiting on the town for more updates.
- c. **Update from New Firehouse Search Committee:** A committee meeting was held before the Fire Commission meeting. The Town Council approved the Town Manager to enter into conversations and/or negotiations with Rand about the prospective building.
- d. **Stipend Ordinance Change:** The Town Council will vote on the stipend raise at their September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was suggested that the members attend the meeting to show support for the stipend.

#### **New Business**

- a. **Town Council Meeting September 12th for Proclamation Honoring the Department's 100th Anniversary:** The members were encouraged to attend the Town Council meeting.
- b. **Safety Concern Sent to the Town Manager about Airline Trail:** The members discussed the safety concern with the Airline Trail outlet behind the Fire Station. Pedestrians are coming off of the trail or taking a shortcut into the center of town behind the fire station and through the parking lot. People walking and those on bicycles are at risk if an emergency happens and the fire department needs to leave quickly and they don't know people are cutting through the property. There is a sign posted on the trail indicating another way or route to take into the town center. Despite that sign, people still opt to take the short cut onto the Fire Department property. It was suggested to get permission from the state to install a split rail fence to block the outlet from the trail.
- c. **Firefighters Awards Program:** Mr. Jylkka emailed the Mr. Swan about the advantages to including the 401k's and benefits of the Fire Department with Webster Bank. The Town has been writing the checks for the department. But this would change it so Webster would cut the checks. It was suggested to have a representative from Webster Bank attend a meeting to present to better explain the benefits. The department would still keep the company that compiles the data and makes the reports for the awards program. Mr. Hurne will call Mr. Jylkka to discuss getting a representative from Webster to attend a future meeting.
- d. **Any Other New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Mr. Visintainer, seconded by Mr. Abbott, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 P.M. Voted 3-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk