

Board of Fire Commissioners' Regular Meeting

December 19, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., in Meeting Room 1-1, City Hall, 111 N Main Street Bristol, CT

Present: Commissioners Sean Moore, Hal Kilby, Dana Jandreau, and Joyce Ptak, Council Member Cheryl Thibeault, and Fire Chief Richard Hart.

Absent: Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano and Commissioner Anthony Benvenuto

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Moore at 6:00 pm.

2. Employee Recognition

- a. None.

3. Public Participation

- a. None

4. Communications

- a. None.

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- a. On motion of Commissioner Ptak and seconded by Commissioner Kilby, it was voted: To accept the November 21, 2024 meeting minutes with an amendment to correcting Commissioner Jandreau be marked present. Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

- a. Chief Hart gave an overview of the monthly reports. Discussion followed regarding a few items such as station 2 having a driveway repair, the heat at headquarters being repaired, engine 1's mechanical issues and the anticipation of it's replacement arriving in April/ May.
- b. Council Member Thibeault discussed an item that Public Works had proposed for a vehicle/ truck wash with an undercarriage component. The committee was in favor of supporting this.
- c. Engine 5 was sold online at auction and the new Engine 5 is here and will be in service within the next few weeks.

- d. On motion of Commissioner Jandreau and seconded by Commissioner Kilby it was voted: To accept the November Monthly Reports. Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Commissioner Moore gave an update on the new fire station, after a successful and well attended ground breaking ceremony. He shared that the committee was presented with several change orders that are pending further information.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Chief Hart discussed the potential of requesting authorization to apply for a SAFER Grant to bring the department to compliance with NFPA and OSHA standards.
- b. Chief Hart gave the board an update of the 2026 Budget and shared the budget is similarly aligned with last years. He noted one change would be an item for both the Fire and Police Department to bring in a program for health, wellness, nutrition, behavioral health, and fitness specific to first responders. He also shared that Engine 2 will be having renovations and is looking to add Headquarters to the Capital Improvement Plan. They are having continuing conversations regarding the CPAT Center/ Active Shooter Training Facility. The budget is due on January 17th.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. A Board of Finance transfer request was presented ot move funds from the Fire Truck Reserve account into the new Engine 5 account to cover increased costs due to change orders primamrily regarding the engine and making it complaint with EPA regulations. On motion of Commissioner Kilby and seconded by Commissioner Ptak it was voted to: Transfer \$53,847.00 from the Fire Truck Reserve account into the Engine 5 apparatus replacement account. Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairperson declared the motion carried.
- b. Chief Hart presented a Social Media Policy for the department as there was not one in place. This policy had been reviewed by Corp Council. It was requested to be amended to incorporate photo exclusions both on and off duty by Council Member Thibeault. Chief Hart will send the updated SOP to the board to reflect.
- c. Chief Hart assembled a department Wellness Committee with members of the department. He referenced again bringing in a health and wellness program specific to first responders. Discussion followed.

10. ADJOURN

- a. On motion of Commissioner Ptak and seconded by Council Member Thibeault, it was voted: To adjourn the meeting at 6:46 pm. Following a voice vote in which there was no opposition, the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Recording Secretary: Sara Bianchi