

BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT
MEETING OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2016

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:50 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

PRESENT: Present at the meeting was Chief Robert Farmer, Assistant Chief Roy Rickis, Chairman Tanya Farmer, Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai, Treasurer Errol Bartley, Fire Marshall Bill Lewis, Safety Officer Martin Serignese III, Jerry Bilbo, Firefighter Elvis Best, Firefighter Vincent Jaunai, Captain Fred Nelson and District Clerk Valda Thompson

GUEST SPEAKER: Bob Osborne and David Santos of Frontier Business Edge, gave a presentation on a new phone system. Frontier offers the options to lease for the next 5 years or buy their equipment outright. The District will consider their offer.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: District Clerk Valda Thompson read the minutes from last month's meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that there were 41 calls in the month of January. There were 32.5 manpower hours. Please refer to the Incident Run Log for further details.

Chief Farmer stated that several members were contaminated by a solution inside the building of 780 Cottage Grove Road during a fire call. Chief Farmer is working with Chief Bill Riley and Fire Marshall Bill Lewis to find out if the gear should be terminated. The gear has been taken out of service. Chief Farmer will check into whether the homeowners have insurance to pay for replacement gear.

Chief Farmer stated that the Grant request for SCBA equipment was submitted and accepted by Homeland Security. Chief Farmer wrote letters to Senator Blumenthal, Senator Murphy and Congressman John Larson to ask for support for the AFG Grant. Chief Farmer received a grant check for \$300.00 from the Firefighters Charitable Foundation, which could be used towards computer upgrades.

FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT: Please refer to Fire Marshall Lewis' monthly paper report for details.

A motion was made to donate \$100.00 for the 1st place Poster Contest winner and \$50.00 for the 2nd place Poster Contest winner. The motion seconded. The motion carried.

TRAINING REPORT: Assistant Chief Rickis stated that the members participated in a Mayday drill at the vacant house on Blue Hills Avenue.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bartley stated the District has covered 58% of the actual budget. The District has 1.6 budgeted for this fiscal year. The Treasurer handed out an actual budget sheet. The Audit Report Legal Notice will be in the Hartford Courant to read.

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT: Captain Nelson reiterated that the SOG's stated that junior firefighters are not allowed in the firehouse after 9:00 p.m. The new Laser Printers are within the same Network. The Station's 4 bathroom is being renovated for under \$5,000 dollars. Surveillance camera should be set up at Headquarters for security.

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT: Safety Officer Vinnie Serignese III, FF Elvis Best, and FF Jordan Bell have formed a safety committee. They meet once a month to go over the safety issues.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT: The District has been invited to participate in Celebrate Bloomfield on June 1-5, 2016. The Education Fun Day will be May 7, 2016. BHFD will be hosting a Coat Drive and Chairman Farmer has purchased 50 coats to hand out to needy families.

Community Outreach Coordinator for Social Services Camille Jones, and Mayor Joan Gamble will help distribute the coats.

DEPARTMENT CONCERNS/GOODS AND WELFARE: The ceiling tiles at headquarters have all been replaced.

Commissioner Marzouca-Jaunai handed out a proposal of guidelines for the Board of Fire Commissioners. A motion was made to keep the proposal for review by the Board. The motion was not seconded and failed.

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated that on November 9, 2015 in Executive Session with Commissioner Jerry Hughes they asked for the District's truck to be tagged/penciled with the assistance of Captain Fred Nelson. Since Chief Farmer has returned back to work, she would like the vehicle to be tagged/penciled within a month's time. The vehicle should be uniformly stripped, like the other Tahoe vehicles.

Chairman Farmer stated that the carpet in the backroom will be scotch guarded and a credit will be issued to the District because the contractors installed the wrong color.

Assistant Chief Roy Rickis will retire at the end of this year.

The Backroom is renting out the house at 1016 Blue Hills Avenue. Coldwell Bankers will be overseeing the screening and application process. A for rent sign will be outside the house with Jackie Cecchini as contact person. Chairman Farmer stated that the estimate for the website has been approved and a proposal to design the website will be submitted to the District.

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT: NONE

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT: NONE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT: BHFD hosted a Coat Drive on December 5, 6, & 8 2015 with WDRC. The Rotary Club donated \$1,000 to the Coat Drive. Camille Jones of Social Services will help with the distribution of the coats. FF Jaunai and FF McGhie met with the Boy Scouts on 1/6/16 and back in December for training on learning to tie knots. The Educational Fun Day will be held on May 7, 2016. BATV will help post ads for volunteers.

DEPARTMENT CONCERNS/GOODS AND WELFARE: Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai spoke with Michelle regarding the website for the upcoming events. Chairman Farmer presented an estimate from Sante Builders for \$16,048.12 for the ceiling repairs in the hall, backroom, the bay, the cascade and the front room.

A motion was made to pay half (\$8,024.06) for renovation to start. The motion was seconded and carried.

CITIZEN'S STATEMENT AND COMMENTS: NONE

PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND VOUCHERS: A motion was made to pay all invoices and vouchers. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2016

EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION: A motion was made to go into Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. Executive Session ended at 9:25 p.m.

CITIZEN'S STATEMENT AND COMMENTS: NONE

PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND VOUCHERS: A motion was made to pay all invoices and vouchers. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting 9:25 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 2, 2016