

BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT
MEETING OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and a moment of silence was observed.

PRESENT: Present at the meeting was Chief Robert Farmer, Chairman Tanya Farmer, Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai, Treasurer Errol Bartley, Fire Marshall Bill Lewis, Firefighter Vincent Jaunai, Jerry Bilbo, Mark Manson, Jannett Manson, Barbara Bagnall, Beverly J. Callis, Annie Nolen, William Waller, Jacqueline Massey Greene, Anne Wall, and District Clerk Valda Thompson. Commissioner Jerry Hughes was not present.

READING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: District Clerk Valda Thompson read the minutes from last month's meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes with corrections as follows: Treasurer Bartley gave additional information on his background of being the District Treasurer for 14 years. He stated that he moved out of Bloomfield 3 years ago, and that there is nothing written that states that once one moves out of the District they could no longer be the Treasurer of the Blue Hills Fire District. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that there were 36 calls in the month of September. There were 28.3 manpower hours. Chief Farmer stated that there was an MVA at 1280 Blue Hills Avenue in front of the Board of Education involving a school bus from the Town of Windsor. There were no injuries on the bus, but the passengers in the other vehicle sustained injuries. Chief Farmer stated that there was a 3 car accident on W. Dudley Town Road. Chief Farmer stated that the District is having manpower issues on calls. Chief Farmer reported that he is planning to reach out to the University of Hartford to try to recruit college students with firefighting experience. The AFG grant period is closed. The District did not receive a grant. The next Grant period starts October 11 -14. The Department's SCBA will need to be replaced within 2 years. Frontier did a survey checking out current equipment from Comcast to get ready for the switch over which should sometime between the end of October and the beginning of November. Chief Farmer attended a Public Safety Town Council meeting regarding the District response to medical calls as a backup aiding the Bloomfield Police Department and EMS. Chief Farmer will have to apply to the CT. State Health Department to get approval. The Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance Service Coordinator Sergeant Ellen White will assist the operation. Chief Farmer stated that 60% of the District firefighters are trained to EMR level or above. The District will sponsor a Class to train the rest of the firefighters. Pump Operator class started Monday, October 3, 2016. Captain Nelson completed running the wiring in front of headquarters for the lights on the sign out in front of Headquarters. Chief

Farmer received a letter of appreciation from East Granby Assistant Chief Troy Wolf for the operational takeover to aid their Division after the passing of Chief Pete Ahlstrin. Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai asked for more information about the medical backup program. Chief Farmer assured her that he would be putting together a plan to present to the Board of Fire Commissioners. Please refer to incident run log.

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

TRAINING REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that the Apparatus Drivers are going through a 48hr. pump operator class.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bartley stated the District's finances are still in a good position.

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that Captain Nelson finished the work on the sign out front of headquarters.

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated the Safety Committee will meet to review the Mayday and SCBA policies of the Department.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT: Firefighter Jaunai stated the Interns were presented with certificates by the Town Council and Mayor Joan Gamble on September 12, 2016. On September 27, 2016 the District attended the Senior Expo. October 12, 2016 the District is scheduled to do a presentation at CRT to 75 kids. On October 18, 2016 the District will be at CREC School for a presentation to 70 kids. On October 21st we are invited to partake in the Boo Bash at 3:30 Park Avenue Leisure Services.

DEPARTMENT CONCERNS/GOODS AND WELFARE: Chairman Farmer stated that the leases for Station 3 and Station 4 are completed and have been signed by all residents with the exception of Dwayne McLish because of health issues and Jordan Bell who is attending the Training Academy. Chief Farmer will bring the lease to Firefighter Bell to be signed.

CITIZEN'S STATEMENT AND COMMENTS: Jacqueline Massey-Greene stated she was waiting for a response regarding the letter that was addressed to the Board members and Chief Farmer. Chairman Farmer handed her the response. Anne Wall asked the status of Bylaws for the Commissioners. Commissioner Ariel stated that discussing the Bylaws was not on the agenda and could not be discussed. Chairman Farmer stated the Board had been advised by the Attorney not to discuss things not on the agenda. Ms. Wall asked again about planting shrubs at the house across the street. She was again informed that the District does not own the house and that planting shrubs would be a backroom decision. Barbara Bagnall addressed Chief Farmer, asking about 911 cell phone call location issues, how would the EMS proposal deal with the dayshift, and how will they deal with EMS and fighting fires. Chairman Farmer stated that the questions were good ones, but could not be answered because it is not on the agenda and discussing these matters would be a FOIA violation according to the Attorney.

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 7:45 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

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