

BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MEETING OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

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, Chairman Tanya Farmer, Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai, Chief Robert Farmer, Treasurer Errol Bartley, Firefighter Vincent Jaunai, Fire Marshall William Lewis, Anne Wahl, Barbara Bagnall, Jerry Bilbo, Essie Tate, Marcus Stone, Len Besthoff and District Clerk Valda Thompson.

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 with the corrections that Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai was not able to gather all the Commissioners to agree on a date to discuss the By Laws by March. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that there were 35 calls in the month of January. There were 32.6 manpower hours. Chief Farmer stated that the District used a total of 248 firefighters for the 35 calls. Which average out to be 7 firefighters per call. The District responded to 24 Foothill Way to assist with a car fire in the Bloomfield Center District. There was a Chimney fire at 2 Albemarle Road. The District provided mutual aid to the Manchester Fire Department for 2 hours. BHFD responded to a structure fire at 234 Dudley Town Road to assist the Windsor Fire Department. There was a structure fire at 8 Sandra Drive. It was a dryer fire with heavy smoke throughout the building. The District assisted The Bloomfield Police Department with searching for a missing patient from 140 Park Avenue, who was later found on Blue Hills Avenue near Old Windsor Road. There was a MVA on Blue Hills Avenue and Park Avenue, where the District used the Jaws of Life for extrication. No word on the AFG Safer Grant. Chief Farmer is putting the final touch on the other AFG Grant for personnel which is due in to homeland security by February 8, 2017. The Town received the final report from the radio consultants for upgrades to the infrastructure. The Town still proposes to use the 700-800, which is very costly. Chief Farmer stated the upgrades have to be done. He has expressed his concerns to the Public Safety Town Committee and the Town Manager. The District hosted a Capitol Region Task Force Meeting involving other departments in the Northern Region. Approximately 20 people, mostly other Fire Chiefs from different towns like Windsor, Suffield and the Air National Guard at Bradley Airport were in attendance and voice their opinions in regards to the 700-800 system which does not work for the fire service. Chief Farmer will keep the District posted.

Please refer to incident run log.

FIRE MARSHALL'S REPORT: Please refer to monthly report

TRAINING REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that training officer Davis is preparing a 6 month training schedule.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Bartley stated the District's finances are right on track.

HOUSE CAPTAIN'S REPORT: Chief Farmer reported on behalf of House Captain Nelson the building has issues with the in house speaker system. New Speakers and an amplifier have been ordered. Chief Farmer stated that Terry Wright and Fred Nelson will hook the system up for points.

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT: Chief Farmer stated that the Safety Committee met last week.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT: Firefighter Jaunai discussed the 4th Annual Educational Fun Day, which will be held on May 13, 2017 with Officer Robert Wilkins. The Bloomfield Police department will be installing car seats. FF Jaunai will keep the District posted on the planning. On Monday, January 30th the District visited the Federations Homes at 156 Park Avenue for the Annual Fire Prevention presentation for the assisted living facility. The District was joined by the EMS and the Police Department. The Facility holds 106 resident patients. It is a large 2 story wood framed building with no sprinkler system. The District helps the seniors to understand how to evacuate the building during an emergency.

DEPARTMENT CONCERNS/GOODS AND WELFARE: Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated the minutes are now live on the website. Chairman Farmer stated the 2016 archives are accessible as well. All postings for special meetings will be in red. The web address is www.bluehillsfd.org.

CITIZEN'S STATEMENT AND COMMENTS: Anne Wahl commented on the status of the bylaws. Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated that they may be available in March 2017. Barbara Bagnall commented that the board out front is still needed. Barbara also had concerns about getting things put on the agenda. Anne Wahl wanted to know as a tax payer to the District, why we cannot get answers to questions? She did not want to hear the FOIA rules. She felt that was crazy. Chairman Farmer stated questions can be asked and answered on the website prior to the meetings. Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated you can email the website any questions. Anne Wahl wanted to know if the residents will know what is available to them on the website, and if the information will be published in the Messenger or Bloomfield Journal?

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 at 7:35 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 1, 2017