

Meeting of Blue Hills Fire Commissioners

Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Where: 1021 Blue Hills Fire Department

Time: 7pm

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai at 7:06pm.

Observance of a Moment of Silence

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai asked that we observe a Moment of Silence.

Roll Call:

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai and Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene, Fire Chief Willie Jones, Fire Marshal Bill Lewis, Deputy Fire Chief Fred Nelson and Director of Finance and Administration, Errol Bartley.

Absent: Commissioner Mark Manson

Discussion and Anticipated Action with Regard to the Approval of Minutes from

Commissioner's meetings held on June 5, 2019 and Special Meeting held on June 26, 2019

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai motioned to approve the meeting minutes held on June 5, 2019 and the Special Meeting minutes held on June 26, 2019. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene. Motion carried by voice votes with no further discussion.

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Chief Report

Fire Chief Willie Jones stated that since the last meeting on June 5th, 2019, there were 122 calls, mainly an assortment of false alarms, fluid spills from motor vehicle accidents. There were no major fire calls within the district, but did assist the Bloomfield Center Fire with a trench below grade rescue on Brentwood Drive construction site as we were called in for mutual aid and they subsequently called several different departments that specialized (members and teams) in that type of rescue to get a person out that was trapped. Fire Chief Jones also stated that Life Star was also called and it appears that the victim did suffer a leg injury. There were also other calls, Cary Lane, (Balbrae Condos) basement fire, West Lane a kitchen fire with heavy smoke upon arrival. Fire Chief Jones also stated that a Firefighter has moved into station 4, this firefighter completed his firefighter one class, is very active, and looks to have a promising future with the department. In addition, another Firefighter has shown a lot of interest and hope to get him into the next Firefighter one class. The Fire Department Reunion will be on October 6th, this occurs every 5 years. Past members have been invited to the occasion. Fire Chief Jones also stated that Hose Testing was completed for all the apparatus. The Blue Hills Department will be hosting the annual "Smoker" on Friday, September 27th. The gathering includes the police department, public works, both fire departments, and BVA. This event rotates every year with Bloomfield Center Fire Department.

Fire Marshal's Report

Fire Marshall Bill Lewis reported that he met administrator at Federation Homes in regards to fire alarm system and they will obtain quotes from an alarm company to hook smoke detectors in individual apartments to fire alarm system and to remove the call for aid alarms from the fire alarm system. Fire Marshall Lewis also reported that the Fire investigation report for Jacobs Manufacturing was completed. He reviewed Seabury's emergency operations plan and suggested some additional information be added; responded to numerous emails and phone calls with the Building Department concerning problems at SABA Live; met with the architect and Building Department at Back East Brewery concerning their future expansion; met with representatives of Trader Joes at 200 Phoenix Crossing concerning their false alarms problems; completed review of planned kitchen for 16 Toby Road; met with Building Officials on problems along Granby Street, suggestions for a task force to get all businesses into compliance with zoning regulations and fire codes; responded to Carmen Arace School for a fire alarm, smoke in a janitor's closet caused by an overheated battery backup for the phone system. The Fire Marshal's office completed 22 inspections during the past months and completed 13 plan reviews and 2 fire investigations.

Director of Finance and Administration's Report

Director of Finance Errol Bartley stated that we started the Fiscal year. Based on the Financial Summary Report in July we have a bank balance of \$243,007, which includes cash and investment portions. We have spent 17% of our projective expenses. Director of Finance Errol Bartley said that we are in good standings. We are in the process of getting the financials ready for the 2018-2019 audit.

Training Report:

Chief Willie Jones stated that the department will be doing drills with Bloomfield Center Fire and Kaman Fire Department.

House Report:

Deputy Fire Chief Fred Nelson stated that we have our Cascade System in place, the cascade system fills up the air packs and they are now on all the fire trucks.

Community Outreach Report:

Lt. Vincent Jaunai stated that the Educational Fun Day and the internship program was another huge success. The graduation for the interns was held on August 12th, and there were pictures and write up in the Bloomfield Messenger. On September 18th, Blue Hills Fire Department will be hosting Bloomfield Police Department and their annual child car seat safety check here at the Firehouse from 3pm-7pm. On September 20th, the Blue Hills Fire Department have been invited to speak to the seniors at Active Day Senior Care at 30 Toby Road, to participate in the First Cathedral Health Fair and Walk-a-thon on September 21st, the Greater Hartford Wesleyan Church Health Fair on September 29th and Lowes Community Day on October 12th. Lt. Jaunai stated that many invites are coming in and we will try our best to support the community.

Department Concerns/Good Welfare

Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene stated that the Blue Hills Fire Department is doing a great job and that she is proud of them.

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated that she wanted everyone to know that Clerk Banks is now fully trained to maintain the website and is trying to navigate her way through, which is great for the department. Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai also stated that the Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 14th, at the Windsor Marriott, members and a guest will be invited and the "Backroom" have generously agreed to pay half of the expenses. Commissioner Jaunai also stated that we received a flyer from the Gemini Project about a Community Health Fair taking place in Hartford on October 5th, and they're reaching out to the Department to donate a bike, the Gemini Project was the Educational Fun Day biggest donor and supporter. Commissioner Jaunai entertained a motion to donate a bike, Commissioner Massey-Greene made a motion to purchase a bike for no more than \$200.00, and 2 white helmets will be donated by Finance Director, Errol Bartley. Motioned seconded by Commissioner Jaunai. Motion carried by voice votes with no further discussion.

Holiday Party for Kids

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai called on Clerk Banks for her idea regarding Holiday Party for Kids. Clerk Banks stated that she was approached by a Bloomfield resident that she has access to toys for kids ages 5 to 12 (at least 30 kids) and wanted to know if the Fire Department was interested in partnering with her to help out kids for the holidays. The party will consist of food, face painting, games, etc and at the end give the kids toys according to their age bracket. There is no date set, but hopefully before Christmas. This can be a day party or evening party for a couple of hours, depending on what the board decides. Clerk Banks will invite the resident to the next Commissioner's meeting to make sure things are confirmed and discuss dates and times and to confirm that toys will be available. Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai stated that years ago we held holiday parties for kids – but somehow it fell off. Commissioner Massey-Greene inquired about Halloween Candy for the kids that stop by the fire house. Lt. Vincent Jaunai stated that candy will be purchased for Halloween.

Citizens Statements/Comments

Citizens in Attendance: Edith Fein and Joan Gamble

- Edith Fein asked about putting the draft minutes and the financial report on the website so that they can be read/review before the meeting.

It was stated that a copy of the draft minutes is available at the firehouse and will be e-mailed upon request and the financial report will be available at the meeting.

Payment of Invoices and Vouchers

Motion made by Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene, seconded by Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai. Motion carried by unanimous voice votes.

Executive Session: Chief Performance Review

Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai entertained a motion at 7:35pm to go into Executive Session, motion made by Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene, seconded by Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai. Motion carried by voice votes.

Executive Session: Chief Performance Review (Ended)

Entered into Executive Session were Commissioner Marzouca Jaunai, Commissioner Massey Greene, Commissioner Mark Manson via telephone and Chief Willie Jones.

Executive Session ended at 7:53pm with Commissioner Mark Manson (member on the phone) for the motion made by Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene to give Chief Willie Jones an incentive in the amount of \$3,000.00. Commissioner Mark Manson (member on the phone) seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice votes.

Adjournment

Commissioner Jacqueline Massey-Greene entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai. Motion carried by unanimous voice votes

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

Next Commissioner's Meeting is Wednesday, October 2, 2019

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Banks
District Clerk/Treasurer