

MINUTES

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 23, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commission was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Pasquale Nuzzolillo. Also present were Commissioners Michael Zuccarelli, Peter Criscuolo and Chief Vincent Landisio. Also in attendance was First Selectman Michael Freda. Absent from the meeting were Commissioners Sam Muzio and Daniel Fleming and Deputy Chief Frank Gersz.

Chief Vincent Landisio spoke of the volunteer firefighters to be sworn in thanking them for their dedication and commitment. Also, he mentioned that Tom Quinn from Montowese Company # 2 graduated from the CT Fire Academy.

Chairman Nuzzolillo read the oath to the seven (7) volunteer firefighters from the three (3) various companies. First Selectman Michael Freda then thanked the firemen for their commitment to the North Haven Fire Department.

Chairman Nuzzolillo thanked them all for educating themselves and for the commitment to the Town of North Haven and welcomed them as firefighters. He then thanked all the families for their sacrifices and sharing their loved ones with the Town of North Haven. Lastly, he stated it is very important that the rules and regulations of the fire services and the chain of command are adhered to as the fire department takes this very seriously.

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to accept the minutes of December 22, 2010. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Fire Commission held on February 7, 2011. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

The Chief's report was given; he spoke of items involving the department including the alarms, he discussed an overview of the previous year's calls which have risen over the years as the department continues to get busier. Chief Landisio then sent a special appreciation to all the career/volunteer firefighters for their commitment to the department during this winter season. During the months of January and February they have been shoveling hydrants out to keep the residents in the Town of North Haven safe. Manpower is essential with storms like we have had. He shared a debt of gratitude to all the firefighters for their countless hours and dedication to the department; he discussed his budget presentation for the upcoming 2011/2012 budget which was held on 2/12/11 with the Board of Finance; he discussed training that has been performed within the department as well as the hydrant budget line which will have a shortfall due to all the hydrants hit during the storms that need to be replaced or repaired. Chief Landisio then spoke of Deputy Chief Frank Gersz announcing his retirement from the

North Haven Fire Department his last day will be on April 29, 2011. He is the longest serving ranking officer in the department and he thanked him for his many years of service. Lastly, he asked that the injury/sick leave report be discussed in executive session, Chairman Nuzzolillo agreed.

Chairman Nuzzolillo on behalf of the Board of Fire Commission thanked all the members of the department for their service, sacrifice and their time serving the Town of North Haven. He also thanked their families as well for sharing their loved ones. Lastly, he thanked Deputy Chief Frank Gersz for his years of service as he leaves a tremendous legacy. On behalf of the Board of Fire Commission we thank him and his family for their sacrifice throughout the past 40 years. He then stated that the department is committed to hiring the next Deputy Chief from within. He then spoke in regard to the 4,617 calls in 2010. He stated that is a staggering number and the taxpayers should look at what it takes to run the fire department and respond to that many calls. That is where the money goes and it is well spent. Lastly, he thanked Tom Quinn of Montowese Company # 2 on recently graduating from the CT Fire Academy. Brief discussion was had amongst them regarding the recent storm affects (medical calls, hydrants, etc.).

Chief Landisio spoke of correspondences in the department. The first letter received was from Yale New Haven Hospital's Toy Closet thanking the department for the donation of thousands of toys for the children. Second was a letter received thanking the fire department for the medical attention a town resident received while shoveling and one (1) phone call thanking two (2) paramedics for their professionalism to their Mom while on a recent call. Lastly, a letter was received from Local 2987 regarding a personnel issue. Chief Landisio asked that it be discussed in executive session and Chairman Nuzzolillo agreed.

Chairman Nuzzolillo then addressed a recent incident involving Chief Landisio's car. Allegations were made at a recent Board of Selectman meeting stating there was a cover up regarding an accident with the Chief's car. He stated that every protocol, State and Town, was followed through the right channels in reporting the incident. Commissioner Criscuolo stated he was also notified of the accident and agreed 100% with Chairman Nuzzolillo on how the situation was handled. He also feels that the person making the false allegations should apologize. He then stated that if this was a political issue, that is not what the Democratic Party stands for. Brief discussion was then had by all commissioners.

Chief Landisio spoke of unfinished business for the department. He spoke of the Rules & Regulations committee still discussing language and will keep the commission informed as they move forward; contract negotiations are still going on; 2012 Parade Committee has had several meeting and the State has approved the parade route and the North Haven Fair Association has granted permission to use their facilities; MDT's in apparatus are running better; the Building Committee has met several times and he asked Peter Criscuolo (Chairman of Committee) to discuss the progress further. He gave an update and stated he will have more within the next two (2) months.

Chairman Nuzzolillo on behalf of the Board of Fire Commission thanked the building committee for their dedication to this project. The goal of this Commission and the Fire Chief is to leave the fire service in better shape than they found it. Brief discussion was had amongst the commissioners.

Chief Landisio then spoke of new business in the department. He spoke of the upgrade of the four (4) paramedics in the department to be discussed in executive session. Chairman Nuzzolillo agreed. Also, he read a letter asking the Town to use Montowese Company # 2 for a Safe Gun Handling class. Discussion was had amongst the commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Criscuolo to table the request until further facts could be addressed. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Chief Landisio discussed the good of the department. He stated that the Firefighter of the Year dinner sponsored by Hamden/North Haven Elks will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 6:00 PM. Chief Landisio then announced this year's recipients; Angel Sanjurjo, Paul Januszewski, Ted Stockman and Luigi Nuzzolillo. Also, a fund raiser will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Elks for Andrew Notarino from Montowese Company # 2. Lastly, the department has been invited to participate in this years St. Patrick's Day parade and the color guard will attend.

There being no further public business to come before the Board, Commissioner Criscuolo moved to convene an executive session at 7:03 PM. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes,

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to allow Captain Pete Barbiero and 1st Lieutenant Tim Mayer of West Ridge Company # 3 to join into executive session. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Chairman Nuzzolillo moved to reconvene the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to accept the resignation of Pete Barbiero as Captain of West Ridge Company # 3. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to promote 1st Lieutenant Tim Mayer to Captain of West Ridge Company # 3. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Commissioner Zuccarelli made a motion to accept Joseph Lewis and Jonathan Dearborne to Montowese Company # 2 as probationary members. Commissioner Criscuolo seconded.

Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Commissioner Criscuolo made a motion to accept the resignation of Tyrone Reed from Montowese Company # 2 as he moved out of town. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.
Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Commissioner Zuccarelli made a motion to accept the Deputy Chief Job description as revised, effective 2-23-11. Commissioner Criscuolo seconded.
Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Chairman Nuzzolillo asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Therefore, there being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Criscuolo moved for adjournment at 8:05 PM. Commissioner Zuccarelli seconded.
Voted: Nuzzolillo-yes, Zuccarelli-yes, Criscuolo-yes

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Zuccarelli, Secretary

The next Board of Fire Commission Meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2011 at the Park & Rec. Center in the Game Room at 6:00 P.M.