BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, December 12, 2023
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room 1
Special Meeting

Commissioners present: Tim Reynolds, Craig Mansfield, John Cotter

Guests Present: Brian Auld, Chris Leidemer, Sarah Blashick

1. **Called to order** at 5:02 pm by Tim Reynolds and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Acceptance of Minutes**:
   a. Motion to approve minutes from the meeting on November 7, 2023, made by Craig Mansfield, seconded by John Cotter. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Bill Approvals
   a. Bills to be paid were reviewed and discussed. Motion to approve the invoices as presented and discussed by Craig Mansfield, seconded by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

   b. Craig Mansfield asked a question if we have looked at options for E.J. Boughton or negotiating an annual contract with them. We are giving them a large amount of money annually. Chief Auld noted it could be investigated to see what options are available.

4. Budget Recap:
   a. John Cotter provided a budget recap noting the departments to-date spending. To date, for the 2023-24 budget year we received $580,344 and to date have spent $221,855.32 with a remaining $358,487.68 for the budget cycle.

5. Old Business:
   a. CO# 2 Renovations: Kevin Rutty and Chief Auld need to regroup again and review the space need requirements. Need to look to get the total space needs down in the 11,000 sqft range versus the 17,000 sqft requested. Committee will plan to meet once that meeting occurs so we can review with architects.

   b. Radio update:
      i. Surveys done for the fire act grant radios for Co #1 and 2. Still waiting on quotes.

6. Visitors Participation:

a. Rob Smith asked question related to the brush truck that is scheduled to be purchased and noted he felt the $350K price tag was excessive. Chief Auld explained that the truck would be multi-purpose vehicle and the goal would also be to consolidate engine 6 and one of the smaller brush trucks. Mr. Smith questioned the need of the truck. Chief Auld also explained that the cost of the vehicle has gone up significantly over the last couple of years. Tim Reynolds noted that these numbers have been in the long-range capital plan and has not changed.

Mr. Smith asked if the replacement chassis for the town owned ambulance had been ordered. Chris Leidemer noted it had not been. Chief Auld noted that Mr. Smith should ask the ambulance for the status on this replacement.

Mr. Smith asked the total cost of the command vehicle.

7. Chiefs Report:

a. See attached.
b. Career staff getting trucks prepped for the winter as well as going through and sharpening tools this month.

8. Medical Division Report:

a. None

9. Career Staff Report:

a. None

10. Fire Marshal's Report:

a. 23 Main final plans are coming in as a three family with a restaurant.
b. Banner should be coming online in the next month or so.
c. Inspections have been completed.
d. Company 1 generator is starting to have issues and needs to be replaced. Don Angersola would like to look at moving the replacement up to this year. He will work this through the Board of Finance to move the money up to this year.

11. Building Report:

a. Company 1 roof was started today and should be done this week. There is now plywood on the ridge and there will be some additional wood that needs to be replaced. Also, some of the gutters will need to be replaced.

12. Equipment Report:

a. See Chief's Report

13. Correspondence:

a. None

14. New Business:

a. Commissioners agreed to do an annual review of all the capital requests to ensure we are aligned, and the long-term plan is agreed to and on record.
b. Tim Reynolds noted that Craig Mansfield's appointment was coming to an end. A motion was made by John Cotter, seconded by Tim Reynolds to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the reappointment of Craig Mansfield to the commission for an additional term.
c. Going forward we would like to see reports from the different groups. All reports need to be in writing so they can get included in the minutes. Chief Auld will also look at his chief's report to help eliminate duplication of the others. Chief's Report will be moved to the end of reports and recap what was not covered. A motion was made by Craig Mansfield, seconded by John Cotter, to add the individual area reports to the agenda moving forward.
d. Toni Myers covered recruitment and the "Siren" insert that was in the paper last month. She also reviewed the pamphlet that is now out. All department literature going forward will have a QR code. The team noted there have been 18 new members this year, as well as the creation of the medical division.
e. A report was given by Sarah Blaschik on the Junior division. Currently 4 juniors in place. Working on rewriting bylaws and expanding the program. Advertisements will be place in the schools as we go into the new year for additional recruitment.
f. All are welcome at the pancake breakfast to visit with Santa this weekend at CO#1.

15. **Adjournment:**
    a. Motion to adjourn at 5:45 pm made by Craig Mansfield, second by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

Craig Mansfield
Secretary
01/01/2024

EAST HADDAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

BOFC 12/12/2023

KYLE TO GET BRUSH TRUCK INFORMATION TO ROB SMITH
TOTAL AMOUNT FOR COMMAND VEHICLE TO ROB

TRAINING –

- CAPTAIN KYLE MOSIG IS REQUESTING FROM MIDDLESEX COUNTY FIRE SCHOOL, THE FOLLOWING CLASSES TO BE HOSTED IN OUR DEPARTMENT:
    * TIMS TRAFFIC CONTROL CLASS
    * CHAUEFFUR/PUMP OPERATOR/Q CLASS
    * AERIAL OPERATOR
    * EXTERIOR FIREFIGHTER CLASS

- **CONGRATULATIONS TO**
  LIEUTENANT MATT SWOL AND FIREFIGHTER MICHELLE FORBES FOR SUCCESSFULLY PASSING FIREFIGHTER TWO

- **CONGRATULATIONS TO**
  SENIOR FIREFIGHTER ERIC WALKER ON BECOMING CERTIFIED TO OPERATE ENGINE 1, TANKER 2, AND THE RESCUE

- **GOOD LUCK TO**
  PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTERS: STEVE FREEDMAN, STEVE DAVREAU, AND MATT LUTTON FOR ENROLLING IN FIREFIGHTER ONE, HOSTED BY EAST HAMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

- **NEW PERSONNEL ORIENTATION**
    - BIG SHOUT OF TO ENGINEER BOTTING FOR HOSTING AN ORIENTATION CLASS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19TH FOR ALL NEW PERSONNEL
    - POSITIVE FEEDBACK WAS BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION ON HOW WELL THE CLASS WENT
    - GOING FORWARD, THIS WILL BE MANDATORY FOR ALL NEW PERSONNEL THE RECEPTION OF THE TRAINING WAS EVIDENT DURING THE CHIMNEY FIRE IN LAKE HAYWARD ON THE SAME DAY AS THE TRAINING
    - ALL NEW PERSONNEL EXITED THE TRUCK READY TO WORK, TOOLS AND LADDERS IN HAND
    - LOOKED LIKE THEY HAD BEEN DOING THIS JOB FOR YEAR

APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT –

- **THE TNT RAM HAS ARRIVED AND HAS BEEN PLACED ON ENGINE 2-15**
- **THANK YOU TO THE CAREER STAFF FOR PAINTING ALL THE BACKUP HAND TOOLS**
- **THANK YOU TO LIEUTENANT MINER AND TEAM FOR THE TOTAL REORGANIZATION OF THE GEAR ROOM**

SPECIAL EVENTS / FUNDRAINING

- **WREATHS WERE PLACED**
    - ON ALL LIGHT POLES AND APPARATUS

- **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**
  - WERE PLACED ON BOTH COMPANY # 1 AND # 2
  - SPECIAL THANKS TO DEPUTY CHIEF SWOL FOR SPEARHEADING THE EVENT

- **TREE LIGHTING AND SANTA AT TOWN HALL – WAS FRIDAY DECEMBER 1ST (5:30PM – 8PM)**

- **MARLBOROUGH LIGHT PARADE – WAS SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND (4PM)**
  - REPRESENTED BY LIEUTENANT MATT SWOL

- **CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE – TUESDAY DECEMBER 5TH (5:30PM)**
  - LADDER 1-15 TO ESCORT SANTA FROM GOODSPEED AIRPORT TO TREE LIGHTING
  - SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CAREER STAFF FOR STRINGING THE LIGHTS FOR THE CELEBRATION

- **DEPARTMENT CHRISTMAS PARTY – SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH (5:00PM CO # 1)**
  - ASSISTANT CHIEF REYNOLDS SPEARHEADED THE EVENT

- **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – SATURDAY DECEMBER 16TH (8AM – 11AM CO # 1)**
  - THANK YOU TO CAPTAIN MYERS FOR COORDINATING ALL THE SANDWICH BOARD AND ALL OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS
  - FIREFIGHTERS NICOLE DOMBROSKI AND AMBER TREMBLAY TO SPEARHEAD

- **AWARDS NIGHT – DATE TO BE DECIDED IN MARCH**
  - FIREIGHTERS NICOLE DOMBROSKI AND AMBER TREMBLAY TO SPEARHEAD

* BIG THANK YOU TO CAPTAIN NEIL MOSIG FOR COORDINATING ALL EVENTS AND COMMISSIONER REYNOLDS FOR PLAYING SANTA

CALLS

- NOVEMBER 30, 2023 AT 8:54AM THE DEPARTMENT WAS DISPATCHED TO A REPORT OF A STRUCTURE FIRE AT 103 NORTH MOODUS ROAD
  - 14 PERSONNEL RESPONDED
  - OUR LADDER, BOTH TANKERS, AND ENGINE RESPONDED
  - MUTUAL AID WAS CALLED FROM COLCHESTER, EAST HAMPTON, LYME
  - A GREAT COLLECTIVE EFFORT WAS MADE FROM CAREER AND VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL
  - GREAT JOB ON:
    * THE INTERIOR ATTACK FROM FIREFIGHTERS DUHAIME, MOSIG, AND FFEIFER
    * TAG TEAM COMMAND FROM CAPTAIN LEIDEMER AND COMMISSIONER REYNOLDS
    * AND EXEMPLATORY SERVICE FROM ASST CHIEF REYNOLDS AND EMT KOLEK FOR SAVING ONE OF THE KITTENS WHO ALL SUFFERED SMOKE INHALATION. CPR / AND OXYGEN WAS PROVIDED TO THE KITTEN

PERSONNEL

- TWO NEW PERSONNEL WERE SWORN IN AT DECEMBER 5TH MONTHLY MEETING
- 1 JUNOR AND 1 SENIOR FIREFIGHTER
- 3 MORE PERSONNEL ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS
- THIS WILL BRING US TO 18 NEW VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 2023

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MICHELLE FORBES - FF
ERIC WALKER - FF

RYAN SOLOVEI - JFF
MIKE FFEIFER - FF
DANNY BARRY – FP
MELANIE KOLEK – EMS
ROBERT GAUDIO – EMS
MICHAEL LABAN – EMS
STEVE DAVREAU – FF
STEVE FREEDMAN – FF
MATTHEW LUTTON – FF
BRIDGET KENNEDY – EMS
ISABELLA LABAN – J EMS
JUSTIN KOLAINSKI – FF
DYLAN MILLER – JFF
NOAH KAGEL – FF
BILL MICHOLSKI – FP
ROBERT KOLEK - FP