



*SHELTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICERS' COUNCIL
Tuesday, January 11, 2011
7:00 P.M., Pine Rock Park Company 4
722 Long Hill Avenue*

Revised February 1, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

REPORTS

Chief -Vacant Position
Assistant Fire Chief Paul Wilson - not present
Assistant Fire Chief Tim Hongo – not present
Assistant Fire Chief Nick Verdicchio
Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tevolitz
Fire Marshal James Tortora - not present
Assistant Chief Ted Pisciotta - not present
Superintendent of Apparatus James Brown - not present
Training Coordinator Ms. Jo Lynn Van Wart

CALL TO ORDER

Captain Alan Ovesny
Captain Dave Van Wart
Captain Joe Constantino
Captain Craig Ferris
1st Lieutenant Matt Lawrence
1st Lieutenant Carlos Chang
2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli
2nd Lieutenant Charles Ovesny

PUBLIC

Victor Godin
Fran Jones
Adam Polaski

Also present

Elicia Sullivan, Clerk

Assistant Fire Chief Nick Verdicchio called the regular meeting of the Officers' Council to order at 7:10 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. PUBLIC PORTION – Victor Godin spoke about fire equipment at the Memorial Day parade. We should be able to take as many trucks as we want. Talking about the possibility of eliminating starting the parades in Derby because of traffic problem. In the talking stages only.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES at 7:10 p.m.

2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli made a motion to accept the Officers' Council regular meeting minutes of December 14, 2010 at 7:10 p.m.. Captain Joe Constantino seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

D. COMMUNICATIONS

I sent out a lot of stuff on the meeting dates and bylaws. There is a policy under New Business a committee put together by the council. Most are no longer members of the council. They forwarded them to me.

E. REPORTS

1. *Fire Chief – Vacant Position Job was posted and had 2 applicants and have been tested and are in the interviewing stage at this time.*
2. *Assistant Chief Paul Wilson – Not Present*
3. *Assistant Fire Chief Tim Hongo – Not Present*
4. *Assistant Fire Chief Nick Verdicchio – As you know, I'm duty Chief. I called all the Captains. Storm watch tonight at midnight. Have a safe night. I have one request of you guys. I am the PIO of the department. I'm obviously not going to be at every call. If you are on a scene and I'm not there, you can talk to the press and give your comment. Keep it brief. Don't make up stories. Stick to the facts. What I am requesting is that you call me if you had something. Otherwise, I'm going to get calls all night.*

5. *Assistant Chief Ed Tevolitz* – Text messaging. I got the list from station 3 individuals, from station 4 and a couple from station 5. Station 1 is all set. I'm going to go over the 18th and hand in the next list. Commissioner Mannian got the SOP book copy. He was going to drop it off at station 5 and didn't get to. It will be here for the next meeting. Did everyone get a copy of the letter I sent to the Fire Commissioners? I have the SOP on CD. I messed up my Policy Book. The letter was just as you requested. It was stamped in by the Secretaries at City Hall. Company 5 Commissioner questioned the board. It was brought to their attention in September and now it's January and no action was taken on it. So, he took the initiative to go out and made all copies of it and will distribute it to me and I will get it to all you guys. But they did act on it and a newly appointed commissioner mainly from Company 5 is really the one who got this done.

Next is the storm for Wednesday, January 12th. I met with the Police Department and discussed what they are going to be doing. I guess they have a soft opening at OEM at City Hall right now. Probably at 9:00 or 10:00 they are going to start to monitor everything. There are just a couple of things they want to make sure. If you are going to go out, get your crew together, call PD up and let them know how many guys you got on a crew and you are ready to go and if you go to calls to help residents, document where you go, how much mileage you used, and who drove. OEM has about a \$10,000 fund that goes to us if OEM opens up. If you don't have any documentation of anything, you lose a percentage. You can lose up to 50 percent if you don't have the information so you only get \$5,000. I don't think the Fire Department will get the money. It will probably go to general fund or go to whatever. Aren't they there to assist us? This came from the Chief Police too. It's state money. The Fire Department is running. They are just talking to us. Who is activating them? The Governor. Just document your mileage. It was brought to the Chief of Police. If you do public service, just document it. We all have four wheel drives. PD might call you on the phones. I would suggest one that calls the station. Call the PD and document this. If this happens with us and we don't have four wheel drive, do we direct the call to downtown? There are three chiefs in town tonight. Make a phone call to one of them.

EMS was looking to stage vehicles. They may want to stage a vehicle down here just in case the weather gets bad. We were going to do station 3, but not going to. 32 is immobile and they are discussing the trucks, see tape.

Gear – I still need to finish up the gear. I need measurements from individuals from station 4. Gloves have been ordered. We just did a mandatory gear check. Can leather boots be repaired? You must wear rubber boots if you have no leather boots.

The plow will be out with the first snow flake. There are 30 routes and 26 guys are coming in. They are 4 guys short. The parking lots are an issue. White Hills and PD. This was brought up at the meeting too. Need to write a letter.

6. *Fire Marshal James Tortora*- Not Present

7. *Assistant Chief Ted Pisciotta*- Not Present

8. *Superintendent of Apparatus James Brown*- Not Present out on workers comp.

9. Training Coordinator Ms. Jo Lynn Van Wart – I passed out my report. We are continuing with Fire 1 orientation class which will be next week. We had 5 people out of the 8 or 9 that took hazmat. Due to the weather a lot couldn't take it. If you have people that could not take the State Practical, don't panic. They can take it when we do hazmat at the end of this block of Fire 1. The written exam will be January 19 at Company 3. Assistant Chief Hongo is still the lead on it. We are in the process of getting instructors lined up. Fire Service Instructor is starting April 1 on Sundays. There are 2 in April. We have a drill at Company 3 on January 19. It will be at another Company then. Valley Fire School did the hazmat and put in the 19th as the date. We can do the 18th. I will be in touch with you and let you know.

We also have our Flashover class starting March 27th. You also have a sign up and the requirements for the class. Hopefully FF2 will start up again. I'm getting a lot of people from out of town that want to take it. I was thinking of waiting for the fall to do Fire 2. Nick mentioned to me about a boating class to get a boating licenses. I will talk to him more about that and you will see something from me in an email.

February 26, we are going to have a Draeger Level 1 refresher class. I would like 2 people from each company. We can only have a maximum of 8. Dave Morris is coming to Company 4 on February 26th. I want names of people that are going to come. They need to show up.

There will be a possible aerial ops class in the summer. I'm also working on some specialty programs. One is with John Brunett at Ivy Brook who works at Griffin to do some training with the mercury response and also with the MRI machine. Some people are familiar with it because they went there when it first opened, but some officers are not on scene and don't know what could happen to them if they go near the MRI machine. So, I am trying to set something up at the facility or at a class here.

I'm also trying to get a hold of someone at Honey Cell to do a walk through and do a safety on their Solar Panel on the roof.

Secondly, what I gave you are training request forms and outside of the state request forms. We now have to do two forms. Make as many copies of it. The first one is for the routine one and the second one is for out of state and has to be done. There is a coffee break training and I included handout what Uall listing is and I gave you a calendar like last year. I also gave you something from years ago called 4 ups and it gives them ideas of junior and probationary members. Charlie, I need your email address. Pocket calendars are compliments of my husband.

1st Lieutenant Carolos Chang made a motion to add to New Business: Plowing, Vehicle Striping, Gloves, Hydrant Shoveling and City Computer. 2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Spec Purchase Committee – Who is going to be on it? Me, CJ and Carlos. Equipment – research it. Spec Committee is going to be 103, 303,402 and 502.

2. Policy on new Fire Fighter Training -

Captain Joe Constantino made a motion to table the Policy on New Firefighter Training on the agenda to next month. Captain Alan Ovesny seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

3. Discipline Policy –

Captain Joe Constantino made a motion to table Discipline Policy on the agenda for next month. 1st Lieutentant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

4. Replacement Spec – The boat. I talked to Randy and they did some stuff. They want to go with a 25 foot Boston Whaler better for lower river. We have spec for 19 footer. I will make up a new spec. I talked to Randy and we will get together when he gets back. Once Company 1 is all set, I will email you.

5. SOP's -

Captain Dave Van Wart made a motion to table SOP's on the agenda to next month. 1st Lieutenant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

6. Rt. 8 Cut-Through – The Captain from Huntington has forwarded to me all he has on this. I got back to him. I didn't start anything on this. I didn't want to call the state between Christmas and New Years. I will start it next week. From what I'm told, they are not official cut throughs. We need to make them official. Talk to the DOT.

7. Blue Lights – How is everyone making out with these? Company 1 wants to know who signs them? It would be easier to have the Company Chief sign them. Make a copy of everything.

2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli made a motion to remove Blue Lights on the agenda. 1st Lieutenant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

8. Board of Fire Commissioners – Write letter to City of Derby to Thank them. That has been taken care of.

2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli made a motion to remove Board of Fire Commissioners on the agenda. 1st Lieutenant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mode Button Policy – I got an email from past Captain Hoffmann. Wanted to know if we liked it. If not on the highway, don't use 5th gear. There were 3 out of 4 Captains that worked on this.

Captain Alan Ovesny made a motion to table Mode Button Policy on the agenda to next month. Captain Dave Van Wart seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

2. Plowing – The Captain has written me a complaint concern to Public Safety Council. My suggestion is to get the Board of Fire Commissioners involved in this. They are in charge of the buildings. Maybe hire a private plower. Parks and Rec are not responsible after hours. Discussing plowing public parking lots, see tape. Friday night 32 got stuck in the parking lot. Chains are on them. Truck 33 got stuck and had chains on it. We have a snowblower to help get trucks out. This was talked about on Christmas Eve but wasn't addressed. I think a letter should be written. We were at Company 1. Tower 7 clears the bay with 2 inches. It may not get out or back in. Discussing more about plowing, see tapes. Send a letter to Public Safety, Fire Commissioners, and Board of Alderman.
3. Vehicle Striping – Vehicle 1 got hit on the highway. One of them has a striping on it. Nick will get a PO and if will send a letter to the Board of Fire Commissioners to get vehicle striping on the 4 units.

Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tevolitz made a motion to write a PO to Board of Fire Commissioners for Vehicle Striping. 2nd Lieutenant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

4. Gloves – Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tevolitz needs to look into.
5. Hydrant Shoveling – After the storm, Car 2 go out and do hydrant digging. Try to get guys and dig it out for free. Can it be a paid thing? Going out for 6 hours is a lot of work. I don't know if there is an ordinance. We need to put a mailer out or go to the city. Send out something with the taxes. Go the newspaper or do a mailer. Suggest to go to the Public Works department. Discussing on tape.
6. City Computer – A few months ago, we had an issue with our City Dispatch Computer at Company 3. We contacted Dan. After 3 months, he picked it up. After 2 months, still have no response. I don't have anyone to help us out. We got it today. It's been about 6 months. I will take care of it and find out what he says.
7. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman – We need nominations. Motion to open up nominations.

2nd Lieutenant Charles Ovesny made a motion to open up nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Captain Craig Ferris made a motion to elect Assistant Fire Chief Nick Verdicchio for Chairman of Officers' Council. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Captain Joe Constantino made a motion to elect Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tevolitz for Vice-Chairman of Officers' Council. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Captain Joe Constantino made a motion to accept Assistant Fire Chief Nick Verdicchio as Chairman of Officers' Council and Assistant Fire Chief Ed Tevolitz for Vice-Chairman of Officers' Council. 1st Lieutenant Carlos Chang seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

8. Homeland Security - None

H. REMARKS/COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNCIL

Jo Lynn Van Wart said she is ordering lap tops for Company 1. I am also ordering dry erase boards, an easel, and markers. Company 1 needs a training lap top. Check to see if the lap top works. I will get 4 lap tops. Are the projectors working? Check the parts, like bulbs, etc. Please email me the model numbers off the projectors to order parts. They should be all the same.

Our dinner is Saturday and I need to know who is coming. We are our own bosses right now. There is where we get things done. Company 5 will work with us. Have a good year and move forward.

I. ADJOURNMENT

2nd Lieutenant Ryan Mattioli made a motion to adjourn the Officers' Council meeting at 8:25 p.m. 1st Lieutenant Matt Lawrence seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elicia A. Sullivan

Elicia A. Sullivan
Clerk

ALL TAPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE.