



Shelton Fire Department

Awards Committee Meeting

Monday, February 2, 2013

7:00 PM

Location: White Hills, Co 5

CALLED TO ORDER – 7:15 pm

Paul Hays – Chairman

Merle Chase

Jim Higgins

Ken Baldyga

Also Present

Gina Ovesny, Clerk

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Participation - None

C. Member Remarks – Chairman Hayes – A lot of challenges over the last year with the program. People asked me on specific things. One was the parade, turning it into a drill. That has been resolved and then challenged again. Questions on medical leave; what designates medical leave to continue to earn points, if you are out on medical leave. That is well defined in our document.

We really need to try to be pro-active, maybe we should try to keep ahead of it. This year there has also been changes in our paper work changes.

Merle Chase - When they have questions from the Commissioners or something comes up, I wish they would notify the Chairman of our Committee, so that feedback could come from our Committee to the Commissioners. It is hard to keep up on an issue when they don't notify us, that it is an issue.

D. Old Business

1. Year End Entitlement Enrollment Process - We have gotten a couple of new documents out. Did we get all the paperwork back? That will be addressed later in the meeting. How well did the process work? Was it a better process with the letter?

It was approved by the board and the forms went out for use. Originally there were enough copies made for each person in the Fire Department. The forms were printed and they came back to the Commissioners and the Commissioners were told to distribute. Those that took them did and those that did not take them, did not distribute.

As the Chairman said back at the beginning when we approved that amendment, definition, that he would be asking the Board, once they approve it, to print up and mail out to every member.

One of the primary processes is getting the entitlement paperwork, the life insurance paperwork out to the members and getting it signed and returned in proper fashion. There are deadlines that we have to meet. If an individual does not respond, we have the waiver. It is difficult to have them sign the waiver.

A copy of the August 3, 2012 letter that was distributed to each eligible fire fighter and a copy of the waiver was also distributed to each member present. On each letter, the individual's name is on there. Individuals that did not respond were contacted and they were going to sign the waiver and they never did.

In the past, when a person did not make the points, they were out of the program. Next year he makes the points and he has to fill out the paperwork again. They continue in the program, but not grant them a year credit for that program. This way their life insurance will continue and the City will continue to pay for that benefit. A person in the past that was vested, they were always left in the plan.

It is an awards program – not a retirement program. A lot of people are confused about that. You have to continue to make your 20% and your drills. With the new contract that the Commissioners signed, they did a very good job and worked with. It included the increase in pay and sliding scale. If your company makes “x” amount of calls it is less than 20%. The sliding scale was discussed.

Paperwork was mailed out to 25 individuals in July that were qualified. You only have 3 months to get the paperwork done. We gave them an end date of 8/31/12.

Lengthy discussion followed.

2. Plan Summary Amendment – Drill Definition.

- Review Amendment with better definition for Drill to include Board of Fire Commissioners recognized firefighting related training with a minimum duration of 2 hours.

It was approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners. They agreed to the additional statement in the 4 document: **Existing: Minimum Drills:** A minimum of 6 drills (12 drill points) per year is required to be eligible for the year.

Addition: A drill is firefighter related training and is recognized by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Our Committee approved it on May 7, 2012 and the BOFC approved it on July 10, 2012.

In the past, it has been the Record Keeper, that had to decide if it was a drill or not. Only the last 5 to 6 months, Merle tried to get the Commissioners to review and give an answer, whether it's a category....this description is....they won't touch it. I get in the description "Drill". With no information defining what activity that took place that night. The Drill Sheet or Incident Report, it covers: Alarms that we go to daily, Annual Mandatory Drills and Work Details and Meetings. On that sheet, there is a spot for you to write in: Meeting etc. They are doing away with the Bubble Sheet. The Deputy Fire Chief is working on it.

Lengthy discussion followed

Jim Higgins – Chief Jones suggested – pro-rated points for officers, because of the fiscal year not the calendar year. On June 30th whoever is in that office at the time will credit for that year. No one loses points for that. There is a Rank Category, it is on the Monthly Report under rank.

LOSAP complaints are handled on the Company Level. It is not our place to judge on specific issues. There are going to be new sign in sheets that are coming out that might help with the problem.

People are trying to get credit for multiple activities at the same time. Example: You are at a Course and there is a drill at the same time. You are at the course not at the drill. You are at a Company Meeting and then there is an alarm. You get credit for both. Multiple scenarios were discussed.

You can attend 12 meetings or no meetings and it doesn't affect your points for LOSAP, other than 1 point. Drills you need to make 6 drills to meet the qualification for the plan. Incident reports should be very clear by the Company. Each Company has a LOSAP rep. Do you want to allow abuse? No. Honoring and awarding, retention if somebody stays here, that is what it is all about.

Additional statement to 3.3 Point Schedule: Only an Alarm and a pre-scheduled meeting, drill or work detail can both be credited to a member, when the member is attending the pre-scheduled event during the Alarm.

Paul Hays made a motion to add the additional statement to LOSAP Amendment 1. Jim Higgins seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.



SHELTON FIRE DEPARTMENT LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM PLAN SUMMARY AMENDMENT 1 – February 4, 2013

General

This document provides additional information to the Revision 1 - July 7, 2009 Length of Service Awards Program Plan Summary.

3.2.2 Points Requirements

Existing:

Minimum Drills - A minimum of 6 drills (12 drill points) per year is required to be eligible for the year.

Additional statement:

A drill is firefighter related training, and is recognized by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Awards Committee approved: May 7, 2012 BOFC approved: July 10, 2013

3.3 POINT SCHEDULE

Existing:

Points are issued on the following basis. Points for no more than one position will be issued per year.

Additional statement:

In the event a fire response is required while a member is attending a drill, work party, or Company meeting, all firefighters in attendance at those activities will receive credit for the response. Only those firefighters whose Company was toned out and who were present at the drill, work party or meeting from the start of the respective activity will receive credit for the activity.

Awards Committee approved February 4, 2013, BOFC approved _____

H. ADJOURNMENT

Ken Baldyga made a motion to Adjourn At 8:30 pm. Merle Chase seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina M. Ovesny

Gina M. Ovesny

Clerk

ALL TAPES AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE