

City of Shelton Fire Department
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 15, 2006

Commissioners Present

Robert J. Araujo, Chairman
David Sekelsky
Justin Sabatino
Bruce Kosowsky

Also Present

Chief John Millo
Assistant Chief Michael Ullrich
Captain Sonsini
Captain Tim Hongo
Captain Verdicchio

Chairman Araujo called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:33 P.M. All those present rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Participation

Chief John Millo wanted to report on a few items that had developed today that he wanted to address the Board about. The first, concerning Sundays exercise at 865 River Road. Chief Millo had a resident that actually approached some of the Co.#4 members last evening as they were making preparations for the drill to occur on Sunday. Chief Millo spoke with the resident today and asked her to put her concerns in writing to forward them for consideration which she did. Chief Millo stated that as the Board can see, it is self explanatory, the resident is asthmatic and unable to leave Sunday during the burn, so in speaking with the Training Director I thought it would be prudent that we cancel this drill instead of risking a member of the public to any kind of harm.

The second thing is we have developed a leak in the tank of Engine 2. This is the third leak that has appeared in this tank which is approximately 18 months old. Chief Millo feels that the tank is defective and that Pierce should replace the tank instead of trying to repair it again.

The last to be discussed was Chief Millo stated that he understands he was appointed back to the position as Fire Chief but has not received any letters about it, and he has seen some things in the newspapers that he gets a little concerned about. So if there was a letter sent to him, he didn't receive it, and if not, maybe the Board can get him something so it clears up his position, some type of written documentation.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2006 Regular Meeting and August 8, 2006 Special Meeting as printed and distributed. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

Communications

Chairman Araujo reviewed the following communications with the Board:

- Communication on Leak in Tank on Engine 2
- Live Burn was Cancelled for August 20, 2006 due to Letter from resident
- Letter that Truck 55 will be in limited service starting 8/13/06
- Two notes from the Mayor denying the new appointments for the Chief and Deputy Fire Chief.

Additions to the Agenda

MOTION made by Commissioner Kosowsky to add under Old Business Item #3 Temporary Appointments, and to add under New Business Item #1 Apparatus – Truck 55, #2 Ladder 1 and #3 Quartermasters Positions. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

Old Business**F1 – Radio System Study**

Mr. Verbil of Oliver Associates distributed radio frequency coverage maps to the Board members. Mr. Verbil discussed various options regarding what type of radio frequencies would be best suitable for our needs. Discussion was held with questions from Board members. It was agreed upon that Mr. Verbil send a final report with his recommendations to the Board by September 1, 2006.

F2 – Ordinance/Stipend Employees

Commissioner Kosowsky just wanted to clear up the way the Board voted, at the last meeting. He thought that the Deputy Fire Marshals were going to be included with the ordinance change. This had all been part of a discussion by the Board at their previous meeting when speaking about all stipend paid positions, but the Deputy Fire Marshals position was not made part of the motion.

MOTION made by Commissioner Kosowsky to include the Deputy Fire Marshals on the stipend ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

There was discussion that two of the part-time Deputy Fire Marshals are receiving hourly wages rather than a stipend pay as the other Deputy Fire Marshals are receiving.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino that Chairman Araujo investigate the pay rates for the Deputy Fire Marshals and report back to the Board for their next meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

F3 – Temporary Appointments

Chairman Araujo stated that the Mayor was sent a letter back in June to approve temporary appointments and the Board has not yet heard back from him, should the Board send another letter? Commissioner Sabatino said the question is, are these people acting in their capacity if they were not temporarily appointed for the past 30 days?

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino that until this item is resolved, that the current assistant chiefs assume command role of the fire department. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky.

Those in favor – Commissioners Sekelsky, Sabatino, Kosowsky
Opposed – Commissioner Araujo

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

G1 – Truck 55

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to accept Truck 55 provided all the paperwork is in order and we have all the documentation. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

G2 – Ladder 1

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to replace the radiator in Ladder 1. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino for discussion. Commissioner Sekelsky amended his motion to include getting quotes for the radiator for Ladder 1 and have it replaced as soon as possible. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

G3 – Quartermasters Position

The candidates will both be notified by the Administrative Secretary of the Fire Department to see when they are available to meet with the Board so a meeting can be scheduled.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to return to Old Business Item #3, Temporary Appointments. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky that the Chairman of the Board make the notifications to receive the proper equipment back from those individuals. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino.

Those in favor – Commissioners Sekelsky, Sabatino and Kosowsky
Opposed – Commissioner Araujo

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino to return to the regular course of business. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

Remarks/Comments for the Good of the Commission

Adjournment

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to adjourn at 8:45 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky and approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Michele Lewis