

City of Shelton Fire Department
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2007

Commissioners Present

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

Also Present

Chief John Millo
Assistant Chief Michael Ullrich
Captain Tim Hongo
Training Coordinator Fran Jones
Randy Jennings Co.#1

Chairman Araujo called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:30 P.M. All those present rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Participation

Chairman Araujo asked if there was anyone wishing to speak at this time:

Assistant Chief Michael Ullrich addressed the Board with a concern with the way the physicals were done this year. He stated they were done very haphazardly and everybody was done differently versus a set pattern and would like the Board to look into that for the next time the Board looks into having them done. There were firefighters checked for hernias, some didn't, the eye exams were done differently, some people were told they had high blood pressure and didn't etc. Assistant Chief Ullrich feels that he Board needs to look into vendors before going into contract with them.

Captain Tim Hongo addressed the Board. He stated he has the same type problem going on, but can't do anything about it due to HIPPA Laws. He has two thirds of his membership that have sent in their questionnaires and they have not been returned to either the City or the members. Captain Hongo stated that he is going to lose about half of his active guys with this physical issue because Immediate Health Care is not following through with the paperwork.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to approve the minutes of March 6, 2007 Regular Meeting as printed and distributed. Seconded by Commissioner Chase and approved unanimously.

Communications

Chairman Araujo reviewed the following communications with the Board:

- Memo from Mayor Lauretti in reference to compliance with FOI
- Firehouse repair work order
- Letter from Mayor Lauretti, re: Chain of Command FM Office
- Memo from Alderman Finn, re: Monthly Apparatus Report
- Letter to Immediate Health Care regarding Fire Department Medicals

Reports

Fire Chief John V. Millo – Chief Millo submitted a partial report for the month of March up to the 27th. Commissioner Sabatino brought up a discussion about asbestos removal at Valley Fitness where the fire occurred there, and exposure to those who may have fought the fire. Chief Millo will look into it and report back to the Board with a full report on this situation.

Fire Marshal James Tortora

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino not to accept the reports submitted by Fire Marshal Tortora. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

Training Coordinator Francis Jones – submitted his report for the month of March 2007.

Quartermaster Jack Brand Jr. – had submitted his report for March 2007.

Commissioner Sekelsky – met with the Officers Council representatives over the gear policy and are coming up with some ideas to submit to Officers Council for their approval and should have it back to the Board by next month.

Reports continued:

Commissioner Chase – has spoken with Joe Sewack in reference to the hooking up of the washing machines at the firehouses and reported on open work orders.

Commissioner Sabatino – discussed problems with the foam systems on a few of the trucks.

Commissioner Kosowsky – reported that the pagers had arrived today, but the cases are back ordered. Company #3's antenna is in the process of getting fixed.

Commissioner Araujo- Chairman's Report – No Report

Additions to the Agenda

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to add to the agenda under NEW BUSINESS Items #5 – Meeting Minutes, #6 – Training Purchase, and Item #8 – Budget Transfers under OLD BUSINESS. Seconded by Commissioner Chase and approved unanimously.

Old Business

G1 – Rescue Truck Assessment

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino to accept the Rescue Truck Assessment from Huntington Fire Co.#3. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

G2 – Fire Department Clothing/Training Division

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to accept the bid for clothing for the Training Division. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

G3 – Radios

There was a lengthy discussion on the radio system.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to use the professional services account to go out to get radio frequencies for public safety. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky.

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

MOTION DENIED.

Old Business Continued:

G4 – Reviews for Fire Chief and Assistant Chiefs (Executive Session)

MOTION made by Commissioner Kosowsky to go into executive session and to invite both Fire Chief Millo and Assistant Chief Ullrich into the executive session to discuss reviews. Seconded by Commissioner Chase.

After further discussion among the Board, Commissioner Kosowsky withdrew his motion for executive session, and Commissioner Chase withdrew his second to the motion.

G5 – Personnel – Fire Department Administrative Secretary (Executive Session) – was not discussed.

G6 – Fire Marshals Division – discussion only

G7 – DEP Trailer/Mutual Aid Agreement

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to accept it and send it off to the appropriate people for their approval. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky and approved unanimously.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to add this to the agenda of the next Board Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

G8 – Budget Transfers

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to have Commissioner Kosowsky review the Fire Departments Accounts and make the necessary budget transfers needed to purchase items. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

New Business

H1 – Hydrant Request – Sorghum Road

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino to approve the hydrant request for Sorghum Road (1 hydrant). Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

New Business continued:

H2 – Boat Specifications

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to approve the boat specifications and to go out to bid with Marine One as a trade in. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

H3 – Outside Jobs/Policy

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino to table this item until next months meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

H4 – Chairman’s Duties

There was a brief discussion on some dissatisfaction with the Chairman’s handling of certain issues.

H5 – Meeting Minutes

MOTION made by Commissioner Sabatino that the minutes have only the motions, and discussions unless someone states they want something on the record. Seconded by Commissioner Sekelsky and approved unanimously.

H6 – Training

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to approve the purchase of the digital program for Firefighter II. Seconded by Commissioner Sabatino and approved unanimously.

Executive Session – Homeland Security - None

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to return to additions to the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky and approved unanimously.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to add to Old Business Item #9 Medical Exam Deadline. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky and approved unanimously.

Old Business Continued:

G9 – Medical Exam Deadline

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to extend the deadline for medical exams to June 1, 2007. Seconded by Commissioner Kosowsky.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Remarks/Comments for the Good of the Commission

Adjournment

MOTION made by Commissioner Sekelsky to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner Chase and approved unanimously.