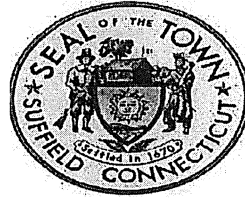


Town of Suffield



Board of Fire Commissioners Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting for the Fire Commission

February 23, 2023

Chairman Christian called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Attendance: P. Christian; E. O'Hurley; J. Caron; P. Yeskey

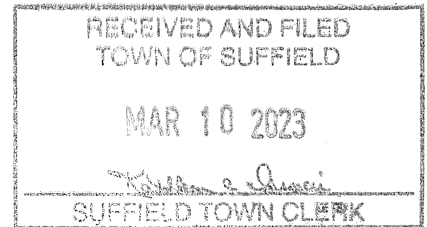
Others in attendance: LT Brian Gauthier and public in attendance.

Absent: Margaret Van Cott, V. Mathieu, J. Bucior

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report

No report



Minutes & Correspondences:

E. O'Hurley motioned to accept the minutes from December 13, 2022. J. Caron seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0

J. Caron motioned to accept the minutes of Jan 3, 2023. P. Yetskey seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0

J. Caron motioned to accept the Jan 11, 2023 minutes. P. Yetskey seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0.

J. Caron motioned to table the January 25, 2023 meeting minutes until the next meeting. P. Christian to talk with recording secretary to make some changes. All in favor. 4-0.

Financials:

LT Brian Gauthier gave the financials-Reviewed handouts, all stations are in working order. Financials are very similar to last month. Radio charges are higher but looking to get a new service. Natural gas and fire marshal supplies are still high. All new fire marshal supplies are still under our budget.

Discussion of the new subscription for the new fire marshal. He wanted new books as the old ones have been out of date.

All stations are on track. Company 4-pipes froze and burst—need work to be completed in bathrooms.

J. Caron motioned to accept the financials. E. O’Hurley seconded the motion. All in favor. 4-0.

Correspondences:

Nothing on paper. Served breakfast at the Senior Center for Valentine’s Day. Tammi Zawistowski—presented valentine day cards from Spaulding School-pictures were taken.

Calls and Activities:

49 calls in the month of January. 16 were burn permits. 2 fires. Reviewed and discussed handout and yellow highlighted calls.

All activities are up to date.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Old Business:

Chief’s position update—HR continues to take in resumes for the chief position. It is still open. They do have applications in.

Discussion of the applicants and procedures.

LT Brian Gauthier shared the names of the two Fire Department members that are going to be involved in the interview process. J. Caron asked if the volunteers had questions ready for the interview process. The questions all have to be asked of the same candidate. Questions have to be approved by HR. Get questions to Brian and he will provide to HR. E. O’Hurley would like to know how many questions HR wants us to ask.

P. Christian stated he wanted to have a special meeting before the March meeting.

New Business:

1. Lieutenant position-discussion.

J. Caron stated that he would rather have a Chief and Captain, not a Chief and Lieutenant.

Reviewed 2018 job description of the lieutenant.

J. Caron motioned to defund the lieutenant position and refund the captain position.

2. Need to work on Captain's job description. J. Caron and P. Yeskey both have job descriptions to look at.

E. O'Hurley—question for the captains-is this being posted internally first and then outside?

J. Caron stated it has to be posted internally for 7 days before reaching out to the public.

Reviewed and discussion the job descriptions they had. J. Caron stated that the job description they were reviewing needed a few changes. E. O'Hurley liked the job description.

3. Possible names for committee-L. Cannon and Kevin Seger
4. Budget-Paul went through the budget with Colin from previous years. Everyone reviewed and discussed. Discussion on different positions; paid and unpaid. New jobs added into the budget.

4% increase mainly due to union issues.

Discussion of past experiences. Discussion of previous "jobs" being given to others to do or not being handled at all: car seats; smoke detectors; other items the

J. Caron moved to accept the budget "as is". P. Yetsky seconded the motion. All in favor. 5-0.

Fire Marshal's Report:

All reports have been done in January. New Fire Marshal is in place and working.

Chief's Report:

Discussion of the Chief's report:

Vehicles: Engine 1 was taken out of service for a chronic air leak. Engine 4 has been relocated. Ladder 1-back and working. Engine 3-full service. Tanker 4-no report. Spare Engine 5-fixed dead battery. We just keep dumping money into that truck. It just sits at Company 4-does not get used often.

Chief's truck-cleaned.
Captain/Fire Marshal's truck-being used. Kept behind Town Hall

Facilities: Company 1-Relocation of chief's office to the back office. Painting and updates in progress.
Company 2-no report
Company 3-no report
Company 4-frozen pipes.

Equipment: All good and in working order.

Personnel: 1 vacant-FF
1 vacant-chief
1 vacant-captain's rank

1 vacant-Volunteer deputy chief
1 injury-now back in full rotation.

ID tags made for everyone

Sending letters out to people who are on the roster but who are not attending classes/training.

No new applications

Waiting on one to get a physical and hopefully he will be joining.

Waiting on another guy from Enfield—can't get a hold of him

Career staff certified and can give burn permits.

Yearly physicals have started—St. Francis is really backed up as everyone needs a physical.

Gear inspections and All personnel paperwork will be done by April 1st.

Drills:

Officer career meeting

Commission meeting

Ice rescue

Officer training

Ropes and Knots training was postponed

Cadet-4 cadets--only one new one. Colby running that.

Chairperson's Report:

No report.

P. Christian has heard all good things and wanted to thank everyone for all that they have done.

J. Caron motioned to adjourn the meeting; P. Yeskey seconded the motion. All in favor. 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Vic Mathieu
Fire Commission Secretary

Margaret G. Van Cott
Recording Secretary