

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 2018**

Present: Commissioners S. Rosenberg, R. Russo, J. Morley, Saunders-Maignan, J. Meszoros, W. Marshall, Chief Thode, Deputy Chief Edwards, Deputy Chief Rolfe.

Call to Order: Commissioner Rosenberg called to order at 6:00 PM

Deputy Chief Rolfe led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Moment of silence for US firefighter Line-Of-Duty deaths in the past two months:

FF John Randle	FF M.V. Hudson	Fire Chief Richard Sales
LT Matthew LeTourneau	FF Stacey Boulware	
DC Russell Achord	AC Rodney D. Baker, Jr.	
FF Derrick Webb	FF Zachary Anthony	
FF Allen Headley	FF Ivan Flanscha	
FF Dwayne Thomas	FF Larry Marusik	
PE Jason Dickey	LT Tom Craigo	
LT Richard Jenks	FF Michael Davidson	
Capt. Earnest McDuffie	AC Timothy Royce	
AC Christopher Pryor	FF Richard L. Garner, Jr.	
LT Casey Kuhns	FF Caleb Scott	
PE Daryel Richards	AC Bernard Olive	

Roll Call: Deputy Chief Rolfe read roll call.

Minutes:

Entertain a motion to dispense with reading of minutes of the previous meeting.

Commissioner Russo moved, Commissioner Morley second, all in favor: I's have it.

Old Business:

- 1) Local 834 Grievance 2017-1 – Tim Richmond, Medical Benefits.

Per Union President, Bob Whitbread, there is a resolve, however, the resolve has not been completed, requesting to table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Entertain a motion to table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting

Commissioner Russo moved, Commissioner Meszoros second; all in favor: I's have it

- 2) Local 834 Grievance, 2017-7, FF Johanna Georgia, Article 6, Denied Overtime.

Per Union President, Bob Whitbread, this should be gone by next month, requesting it be tabled to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Entertain a motion to table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting

Commissioner Morley moved, Commissioner Meszoros second; all in favor: I's have it

- 3) Local 834 Grievance, 2017-10, FF Dan Russo, Article 6, Funeral Leave.

Per Union President, Bob Whitbread, there is a resolution, except the final steps have not been completed on the City's side, not the Chief or the Local, requesting we table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Entertain a motion to table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting

Commissioner Meszoros moved, Commissioner Morley second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 4) Yolanda Capra, widow of Guy Capra petitioning for Widow's Disability Pension.

Per City Attorney Mitola everything is in order and it should be granted.

Entertain a motion to grant Yolanda Capra, widow of Guy Capra Widow's Disability Pension.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

New Business:

- 1) Entertain a motion to remove retired Lieutenant, George Seaman, deceased January 8, 2018, from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A for implementation.

Commissioner Russo moved; Commissioners Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 2) Entertain a motion to remove Elizabeth Christiano, widow of retired Firefighter, James Christiano, deceased on January 12, 2018 from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A for implementation.

Commissioner Saunders-Maignan moved; Commissioners Russo second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 3) Entertain a motion to remove Rita Ignitus, widow of retired Pumper Engineer, Louis Ignitus, deceased February 10, 2018 from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A for implementation.

Commissioner Morley moved; Commissioner Meszoros second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 4) Entertain a motion to removed retired Pumper Engineer, Kenneth Root, deceased April 14, 2018 from the Firefighter's Pension list and refer to the Board of Trustees, Pension Plan A for implementation.

Commissioner Morley moved: Commissioner Russo second: all in favor: I's have it.

- 5) Local 834 Grievance, 2018-2, Article 6 & Article 39, Appendix G, Drug Testing, requiring employees to take a drug test during a physical.

Union President, Bob Whitbread explained the Department gave a physical and put drug testing in it which is against the contract and article. The Union wants recognition and acknowledgement from the Department that this was wrong and negotiations are to be done before anything such as this happens again.

President Rosenberg asked if we do random drug testing or not. President Whitbread advised that this was done during a physical. Chief Thode advised the Department sent several firefighters over 65 for physicals. The first firefighter that went to the doctor had administered amongst other tests, a drug test. The firefighter came back, advised he was administered a drug test, we immediately called the doctor and advised him not to perform drug tests on the firefighters, and it was ceased.

President Rosenberg stated he is not sure a motion is needed, since it this was a mistake by the doctor and its been recognized and corrected. Also, it is part of the record now. Union President Whitbread is requesting written documentation that he Department did something wrong and it was in violation of the contract.

Entertain a motion that Chief write a letter to the Medical Examiner, making a notation there was an error made and it is not to happen again because it is in violation of the contract.

Commissioner Saunders-Maignan moved; Commissioner Morley second, all in favor: I's have it.

- 6) Local 834 Grievance, 2018-3, Article 6 & Article 20, Appendix D, members of the Fire Marshal Division where incorrectly paid.

Union President Whitbread requested item to be tabled to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Russo second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 7) Executive Session for attendance review of the following individuals:

- a) Capt. Kyle Gardiner

Declined Executive Session. Capt. Gardiner advised he has a doctor visit on May 1, 2018 and hopes to have a return to work date at that time.

Entertain a motion to table to May's Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Marshal second; all in favor: I's have it.

PLEASE LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT COMMISSIONER MARSHAL ARRIVED 6:05 PM

- b) Firefighter James Boyle

Declined Executive Session. FF Boyle advised he had an accident on 12/4 and surgery on 12/5 and a second surgery on 12/22. Doctor advised he should be good to go about a week after stiches are removed on 4/23 and continue with physical therapy.

Entertain a motion to table to the May Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Marshal second; all in favor: I's have it.

- 6) Entertain a motion to accept the Report of Sick and Injury.

Commissioner Marshal moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

7) Entertain a motion to accept the Payroll Register.

Commissioner Marshal moved; Commissioner Saunders-Maignan second; all in favor: I's have it.

8) Policy and Procedure review:

a. Chief Thode will address the Board on Key Issues.

- (11) people in State Fire Academy and should be graduating in 5 weeks, they will come here and do several more weeks of training. We have (11) people who will be retiring and with the untimely death of FF Gaito, the (11) recruits who come on will be able to fill those open slots.
- Presented the Budget to Council on Tuesday, 4/17/18.

9) There being nothing further to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn is in order.

Commissioner Meszoros moved; Commissioner Russo second; all in favor: I's have it.

Meeting adjourned at 6:13PM

Next Meeting: May 16, 2018
Fire Headquarters, 2nd Floor
30 Congress St., Bridgeport, CT

Prepared by: Gail Bottillo
April 25, 2018