

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Fire Engineers Meeting Minutes  
September 4, 2019 at 1800 hours

Meeting called to order by Chair Jim Fabrizio at 1800

Present: Engineer John Klanchesser, Chairman Jim Fabrizio, Engineer Ann Hebert, Acting Chief EJ Hoyt and Laurie Mu

Public Comment: No public present

Meeting Minutes: Engineer Klanchesser made a motion to accept meeting minutes from August 7, 2019 as written. Chairman Fabrizio seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Fabrizio made a motion to accept non-public meeting minutes from August 23, 2019 as written. Engineer Hebert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chiefs Report: Engineer Hebert made a motion to accept Chief's Report for August. Chairman Fabrizio, seconded. Motion Carried 3-0

Old Business:

Comstar writeoffs –Acting Chief Hoyt will be meeting with the town financial officer and town administrator on Friday, September 6, 2019 about outstanding balances, the end of Comstar collecting for the department and proposed changes from new ambulance billing company.

Apparatus Status - Engine 2 is almost finished just waiting on one more part to be received and installed. When Engine 2 is placed back into service, Tower 3 will be placed out of service (OOS) to have a punch list of items fixed while under warrantee.

New Business:

Staffing – Department manning is currently at 3 (three) people per shift. Part-time firefighters are in short supply. Acting Chief Hoyt asked that staffing remain at status quo but asked the board to authorize 16 hours per week at overtime rate to compensate a Lieutenant for covering two- 8 hour shifts of administrative duties. Acting Chief Hoyt asked for permission to have Lieutenant drive Command Car 2. Engineer Hebert made a motion to approve 16 hours of overtime per week for administrative duties and use of command car 2. Engineer Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Station Needs –An RFP (request for proposal) has been requested (by BOS) or what has been deemed the immediate needs of the department has not been posted on website , but, an architect has scheduled a walk thru of our building for September 5, 2019.

Needs Assessment- Public Safety Evaluation – The Engineers and Acting Chief Hoyt had a brief discussion and were in agreement that the department would benefit from a Public Safety Evaluation. Acting Chief Hoyt acknowledged that it might be prudent to suspend the plan for paving the parking lot at a cost of \$66,000.00 (sixty six thousand dollars) which is scheduled for mid-September.

September 18 –DES Training – Acting Chief Hoyt informed the board that the DES was conducting a training drill on the river and asked the department to participate by provide a safety boat for the drill. Department needs to commit One (1) Officer and Two(2) Firefighters at overtime rate. Engineers unanimously approved.

Fuel- Acting Chief Hoyt relayed to the board that the department mechanic noted the fuel filters for department vehicles have been cleaner since the department began using commercial pumps (and WEX gas cards) instead of the town pumps. Board unanimously supports department using commercial pumps going forward.

Town of Newington Road Race - Acting Chief Hoyt informed the board that the department will be manned with one extra member on the day of the upcoming road race.

Transformer Fire - August 28, 2019– Acting Chief Hoyt informed the board that Eversource had a dry chem extinguisher malfunction and used our department’s extinguisher to put out their transformer fire. The department purchased an additional two (2) dry chem extinguishers to have on hand for apparatus and will be sending out the extinguisher to be recharged.

The Board signed Purchase Orders.

Resignation of Chair – Chairman Fabrizio said he was unable to commit extra time needed to Local 4104 Union Contract negotiations because of his teaching schedule. Chairman Fabrizio made a motion to appoint Engineer Klanchesser as Chairman of Board of Fire Engineers. Engineer Hebert made a motion to accept. Motion carried 3-0.

Chiefs Comments:

Department Kitchen –Acting Chief Hoyt commended Lt. Moynihan, Firefighter Connors and Firefighter Nicols for the extra work they performed to modify the layout of the kitchen to create more counter space and improve the functionality of the space.

Good of the Order: Local 4104 Union Representatives Patrick Moynihan and Jonathan Connors brought to the board’s attention an issue that the union was looking for clarification on regarding personnel plan and employee compensation accrual while out on Workman’s Compensation. Union Representatives to follow grievance procedures outlined in contract.

Non-Public Session: None.

The Board voted to adjourn at 1956. Motion by Engineer Fabrizio , Seconded by Chairman Klanchesser Motion carries 3-0.