Town of Plymouth

Board of Fire Commissioners

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Fire Commission Minutes March 11, 2021

Call to Order: Chairman Martin Sandshaw called the scheduled March 11, 2021, Fire Commission Zoom Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Via ZOOM were: Chairman Martin Sandshaw, Commissioner Daniel Wollenberg, Commissioner Mark Redman, Vice-Chairman Gerard Wunsch and Commissioner Victor Mitchell. Also, in attendance via ZOOM were: Chief Mark Sekorski, Deputy Chief Greg Cody, Assistant Chief Chris Masi, Deputy Chief Derek Freimuth, Fire Marshal Ray Kovaleski and Councilwoman Sue Murawski.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman Martin Sandshaw led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes dated February 11, 2021:

A motion was made by Commissioner Mark Redman, seconded by Vice-Chairman Gerard Wunsch to approve the February 11, 2021 Minutes. This motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioners' Reports Chief's Report:

Chief Sekorski had a meeting with the Board of Finance re: Capitols.

Training started with drills at each station.

Waterbury Area Chiefs meeting on March 4th.

Litchfield County Area Chiefs meeting was last Monday.

Vaccinations done.

Officers' meeting last Monday.

Garage fire on Tuesday. Many people showed to help.

Looking into applying for grants at Thomaston Savings Bank and Main Street.

Treasurer's Report - Chairman Sandshaw went over ledgers. No issues.

Fire Marshal's Report: Fire Marshal Raymond Kovaleski went over his Monthly Report, Monthly Budget Expenses and List of Incidents in detail for the month of February.

Communications:

Radio Report: Deputy Chief Greg Cody everything good. No problems.

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Buildings and Grounds Report: Assistant Chief Chris Masi reported everything good. No issues.

Equipment Report: Deputy Chief Derek Freimuth reported nothing new. Looking at 2021 grants at Thomaston Savings Bank and Main Street Foundation.

Training Report: Chief Sekorski stated trainings began at each station. No department drills yet.

Trucks Report: Deputy Chief Greg Cody reported everything good. Engine 5 is fixed. Will be back in Plymouth on Monday. Engine 3 downtown.

Executive Session – Discuss Fire Marshal Budget:

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Gerard Wunsch, seconded by Commissioner Daniel Wollenberg to remove Executive Session – Discuss Fire Marshal Budget from the agenda. This motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

A discussion took place regarding the Fire Marshal budget which was approved as presented by the Commission. The Mayor amended it and cut personnel by \$13,475.00.

Fire Marshal Kovaleski stated that inspections can be done beginning in April. He stated a 3rd person is needed in the office. He said the Mayor can't cut the position.

Chairman Sandshaw stated this cut can be challenged.

Fire Marshal Kovaleski reported that the Deputy Fire Marshal in the office has agreed to resign his position in October. He wants to stay on until October as he is president of the CT Fire Marshals Association. It will not cost the town any money. No dues or pay will be paid.

Chairman Sandshaw and the Mayor were in agreement with the above.

The Commission is in agreement.

Commissioner Mitchell wants this agreement in writing. Fire Marshal Kovaleski will mail him a letter.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Gerard Wunsch, seconded by Commissioner Victor Mitchell to challenge the cut in the Fire Marshal's budget. This motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Sandshaw requested the Fire Marshal prepare a detailed report to present to the Board of Finance.

New Business: Chairman Sandshaw reported that he and the Fire Chief met with Board of Finance members, Jim Kilduff and Vicky Carey. Everything went well. There were a couple of questions with the line items for Professional and Tech Services and Refurbishing of Trucks. They are going to put the \$700,000 in Capitols for the breathing apparatus. The Board of Finance wants to be informed of future upgrades that are needed to keep up with things. \$30,000 for portables will be kept in the budget.

The Board of Finance Zoom meeting is March 22nd at 7:00 PM

Public Comment: No

None

Adjournment:

There being no further business of the Fire Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Daniel Wollenberg, seconded by Commissioner Victor Mitchell to adjourn. This motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Schnaars

Recording Secretary