

New Canaan Fire Commission

Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2007

Chairman Horner
Commissioner Englund
Commissioner Williams
Fire Marshal Baker
Asst. Chief Karl
Asst. Chief Hennessey

Opened meeting: 7:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

The corrected Minutes of the December 13, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved. The amended Minutes of the Special Meetings of December 20th, 27th and January 4th were all unanimously approved.

Chairman's Report: None

Chief's Report:

Asst. Chief Hennessey reported 81 calls for the month of December. Details of the calls are entered in the record.

Chief Jonker's Strategic Initiatives were discussed-

- 1) Daily training of career staff, DMV qualification (Q) for 3 volunteers. Much difficulty in scheduling the State to offer us a Pump Operators course.
- 2) Line Officer development - Fire Officer 1 course started on 1/09/07. Firefighter 2 class being scheduled.
- 3) Improve MIS - Maximizing the FireHouse software. Waiting delivery of new ISO module for the software
- 3) Water Supply - Began GPS plotting of dry hydrants.

Apparatus- U1 back in service. Engine 1 will need to new tires and is in the shop for pump repair, body repairs and other services. E1 body sustained minor damaged while responding to a call at 2:00AM Monday while entering a narrow driveway.

The monthly budget was discussed. About 46% of budget has been spent so far this year. The holiday pay line items have merged. The Fire Department now tracks the CIRMA re-imbursements with over \$100,000.00 received this year.

Fire Marshal's Report:

45 inspections, 5 plan reviews and 1 investigation. Details were entered into the record

Old Business: None

New Business:

Chairman Horner asked that movement be made on the Fire Alarm policy, Driveway Obstruction and Fire Lane review.

Fire Alarm Policy:

Fire Marshal Baker detailed a 6 point plan for a Fire Alarm policy. Details were entered in the record. Commission asked the Fire Marshal that his office move forward with the following 5 points: Insertion of information of policy in annual tax bills, handouts for all permit applicants in the Building Dept., firefighters to hand out information when leaving the scene of a False Alarm, continuation of informative articles in the local newspapers and the initiation of a reporting mechanism for firefighters to report False Alarms to the Fire Marshal's office.

More work was needed on a modification of an ordinance to require annual fire alarm registration and certification.

Fire Lane Policy:

Fire Marshal and Asst Chief Hennessey did a canvas of schools and other public buildings and found about 75% of these properties has some workable and recognizable Fire Lanes in place. Most Fire Lanes need some degree of upgrading. Fire Marshal asked to make recommendations, based on current statutes, to schools, other public buildings, group living and care centers, businesses and others to upgrade their Fire Lane visibility.

Driveway Obstruction:

Fire Marshal's office to work with Engineering Department and Planning and Zoning office to make recommendations leading to a revised Driveway Obstruction policy to maintain or improve un-obstructive entrance and exit of Fire apparatus into driveways. Commissioner Englund to assist the Fire Marshal in this effort. Access of gated driveways during times of emergencies also discussed and will be reviewed before the P and Z Commission.

Discussion of Town Water supply issues was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was placed in Executive Session at 9:04 PM to discuss the fire at Summersweet Lane and the on-going criminal investigation of its cause. No votes or actions were taken by the Commission.

The meeting re-opened to the public at 9:38 PM. No further business appearing the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sven R. Englund, Secretary

Robert Mallozzi III, Recording Secretary

Tally of Voting, January 9, 2007

Minutes of the December 13, 2007 meeting: Unanimously Approved

Minutes of the Special Meetings of Dec 20, 27 and January 4th, 2007: Unanimously approved.