

FIRE COMMISSION

Town of New Canaan, Conn.
60 Main Street
New Canaan, CT 06840
203-594-3140

MINUTES of July 14th, 2009

FINAL and APPROVED

In Attendance:

Roger Williams, Chairman
Sven Englund, Commissioner

Chief Edward Karl
Asst. Chief Jack Hennessey
Fire Marshal Fred Baker

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams at 7:34 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of the Minutes from the last meeting-

The Minutes of the June 9th meeting were read by Secretary Englund. A **MOTION** to approve the minutes as amended was approved unanimously. The Minutes were entered into the Record.

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman made a **MOTION** to enter Executive Session to discuss the status of possible amendments to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. The motion was unanimously approved. A **MOTION** to close the executive session was unanimously approved.

Chief's Report:

Chief Karl reported for June there were 77 calls, of which 6 were fires, 7 were rescues, 17 hazardous conditions, 8 miscellaneous and service calls, and 39 were false alarms. He reported 955 hours of training by all personnel in June. All New Canaan firefighters have passed the Fire Officer 1 certification. Firefighter 1 and "Q" courses are in progress.

The Chief said the hydrant testing and identification process will be 100% complete by October. We will host a Connecticut State Fire Academy class here next year. ID badges are still in process at Town Hall. There is no agreement on truck maintenance by the DPW garage but the negotiations are proceeding. This will include DOT inspections.

Assistant Chief Hennessey presented an updated ISO action plan for 2009. He noted the expenditures for 2008- 2009 will be about \$45,000 over the budgeted figure. Chairman Williams asked when we could expect final end of year numbers from the Finance

Department. Assistant Chief Hennessey said he expected the end of the first quarter of 2009-2010 is a good estimate. The hand scanner has software issues so it is not being fully utilized. He said we had two men on injury leave for 60 to 90 days. All five of our men on the Fairfield County HAZMAT team have been suspended since we have no money for training. The purchase of a new washing machine, to defray laundry costs, is on hold while the union works out issues.

Fire Marshal's Report:

Fire Marshal Baker reported there were 103 inspections, 3 plan reviews and 5 investigations by the Fire Marshal or his office during the month. NCVAC headquarters is open. New Canaan Mounted Troop work continues. Major remediation work is in progress at 22 Pine Street, the site of the former Best Ever Cleaners. The Congregational Church is remodeling their kitchen. Investigations include; 161 Cherry St. for a false alarm caused by contractors working without a permit, 190 Park St. follow up with NCPD on a false report of fire, 399 Old Norwalk Rd. for an automatic gas alarm, 173 East Ave. for report of electrical fire, and 23 Park Street for the branch on wires.

The dry hydrant at West Road is approved and work has begun. Tim Brown has obtained funding for further water supply improvements at sites to be determined in the future. Trinity Pass Rd. is mentioned as a possible site. Fire Marshal Baker met with a homeowner on Brushy Ridge Rd. about a cistern and with Hobbs Construction about a dry hydrant from a swimming pool on Canoe Hill Rd.

The fireworks show at Waveny Park on July 4th went off without incident. The State Fire Marshal's office checked the shooter's set up.

Old Business: Assistant Chief Hennessey reported Callback overtime hours are low on a historical basis for the first month. There have been no HAZMAT incidents.

New Business: A discussion of the possibility of obtaining a replacement for Engine 9 by purchasing a used pumper from Trumbull was held. The truck has open jump seats.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th, 2009 at 7:30 PM in the firehouse.

A **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Sven R. Englund, Commissioner
Secretary of the Commission

Talley of Voting

- A Motion to approve the minutes of June 9th as amended was unanimously approved.

- A Motion to enter Executive Session was unanimously approved.
- A Motion to close Executive Session was unanimously approved.
- A Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.