

# MINUTES

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## Board of Fire Engineers Board, Committee, Office, Etc.

Date: December 18, 2017 Time: 6:30 P.M.  
Present: Chief Hamilton, Deputy Chief Rudge, Asst. Chief Gasco,  
Asst. Chief Piscitelli, Asst. Chief Silver  
Absent: None

Minutes from November 20, 2017 were approved. Invoices were signed. Mail was read. Account balances were reviewed.

### FEE SCHEDULE

The Board reviewed an updated fee schedule. Asst. Chief Gasco made a motion to approve the new schedule. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Piscitelli and carried on a 5-0 vote. The schedule will be sent to the Board of Selectmen for their review and approval.

### PRE INCIDENT PLANS

No updates for pre-incident plans.

### OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- Ladder testing was done last week including the Tower. All passed except the roof ladder on Engine 3. It needs a new rung. Chief Hamilton will order the part. Test results were forwarded to ISO.
- Chief Hamilton asked for a new training schedule. Asst. Chief Gasco and Asst. Chief Silver will work on one and present it at the next meeting.
- The Board discussed the lieutenant's position at Station 3. Capt. Swenson told Asst. Chief Silver that he would like to bring in someone from another station. The Board discussed opening the position to the entire department. Asst. Chief Silver made a motion to open the lieutenant's position at Station 3 to all members with at least 5-years service. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote. Anyone interested must contact the Board or the Office by 1/4/18. If needed, interviews will be held on 1/8/18.
- Chief Hamilton met with the Town Manager and Finance Director to review the budget for FY19. They supported the budget 100%. Articles for Town Meeting will include funds for design plans for a new fire station, and \$28,000 for gear washers and dryers. Chief Hamilton still needs to meet with the Finance Committee.
- Revisions to the State fire code will go into effect on 1/1/18. Mass. Comprehensive Fire Code CMR 1 will be based on NFPA 1 2015 edition. One major change will be for the issuing of hot works (welding) permits. This will require permit holders to complete training approved by the State Fire Marshal. A new building code goes into effect on 1/1/18 as well.

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
18 JAN 23 PM 1:11  
MILBURY, MASS.

## MINUTES CONTINUED

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- Chief Hamilton said propane tanks are allowed to be mounted on plastic slabs that are being used now.
- Deputy Chief Rudge asked if a meeting for the Public Safety Complex Committee was scheduled. Chief Hamilton said that Chief Desorcy was going to speak to Brian Humes and try to set something for the beginning of January.
- Asst. Chief Gasco said the K12 saw was repaired and is back on the truck.
- Asst. Chief Gasco said batteries are needed for the saw-z-all on Rescue 1. He made a motion to purchase the batteries. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Silver and carried on a 5-0 vote.
- Asst. Chief Silver said he spoke to Senator Moore about the certificate provided to Mike Couture when he retired. Senator Moore said the State Senate would acknowledge and honor any firefighter who retires with at least 20-years of active service. Senator Moore offered to go back 5-years for Millbury firefighters who met the criteria. A list will be drawn up.
- Asst. Chief Silver said he was certified as a Fire Investigator Technician and would like to be designated as "Millbury Fire Investigator". He would not go outside of Millbury or work for the State's Fire Investigator Squad-but would be Millbury's investigator. This brought about a lengthy conversation. Deputy Chief Rudge asked if Silver could testify in court. Asst. Chief Silver said yes he can. Asst. Chief Gasco had questions about liability. He didn't want to the Town to take on any more liability. He also stated that he did not want Silver to investigate outside of Millbury and he didn't want to pay anything additional for investigations. Asst. Chief Silver explained that by state law, we are required to investigate every fire in Town-we are liable even when a State Investigator comes in. The State Fire Marshal would still be called in for certain fires. Silver would help with investigating those fires as well as minor fires (where the State is not called in). He also said his certification helps with ISO ratings. He took and completed the training and questioned why he could not have the title. Deputy Chief Rudge said he would like to check with the Town Manager to see if anything prevented the Board from making this appointment-possibly running it by Town Counsel. He also wanted more time to consider this. Asst. Chief Piscitelli said a lot of times the State Fire Marshal determines the cause to be "undetermined". Asst. Chief Silver said this is because it requires a large amount of certainty to make a final determination. Board members agreed to bring this up at another meeting.
- Pakachoag Acres submitted plans for new building to be located at the corner of Millbury Avenue and Oak Pond Avenue.

**MINUTES CONTINUED**

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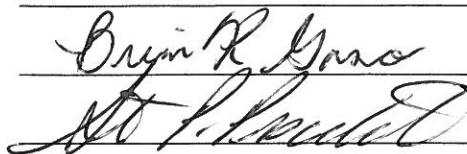
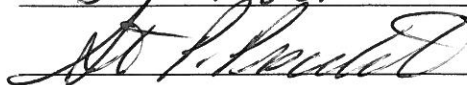
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- The owners of 29 Main Street are demolishing and rebuilding the first floor of the property at this time.
- The Springfield Fire Dept. donated additional 5" hose and adapters.

Asst. Chief Piscitelli made a motion to adjourn at 20:00.

  
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BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Regina A. Markey, Head Clerk