

TOWN OF NEWTOWN
NEWTOWN, CONN.



**BOARD OF FIRE
COMMISSIONERS**

BOFC Minutes
May 20, 2013
Dodgingtown
Called to order: 7:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Burton, Cragin, Goosman, Manna, Nezvesky, Jossick and Descheneaux
Marshals present: Halstead and Clark

Opening Comments from Chairman Manna - None

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Descheneaux moved that the minutes of 4/22/13 be approved as presented.

Seconded: Jossick

Motion passed unanimously

Correspondence from the Board:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>From/To</u>	<u>Subject</u>
5/20/13	Cragin/The Heritage Program	Sandy Hook Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Correspondence to the Board:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>From/To</u>	<u>Subject</u>
4/4/13	NWC Ferris and Morrison/BOFC	Funds donation \$362
4/10/13	Manna/Murphy	13-14 Budget Change
5/2/13	Manna/Ciaccia	Capital Budget – Botsford
5/8/13	NWC Peg Forbell/BOFC	Funds donation \$362 Photo-op
5/14/13	Halstead/Manna	Parade Requests
5/16/13	Combined Chiefs/Manna	5.5 Air Paks

Public Participation:

Farrell stated he was at the Harrisburg fire show the weekend of 4/18 and spoke with Bauer Compressions regarding the 5.5 Air bottles and confirmed the chargers will be obsolete in the future.

Farrell also stated that hoses older than July 1987 should be out of service.

Marshal's report for the month of April

There were 65 calls, 475 incidents, and 382 hours. \$38,000 in losses; \$85 in fees collected.

Halstead:

- 206 Brushy Hill Road - Complaint
- Blasting – 10 Osborne Hill Road - Complaint
- 35 Dodgingtown Road – Complaint
- 82 Berkshire Road - Complaint
- 44-46 Swamp Road – Tire Grinding Facility

Frampton:

- Fire Drill – Children's Adventure Center
- Sprinkler – 166 Mt. Pleasant
- Edmond Town Hall – Temp Generator
- 6 Queen St. – Big Y – Kitchen Equipment Placement
- 12 Berkshire Road – NHS Patio Furniture Placement

Combined Chief's Report (see attached)

Committee Reports

Budget – Burton stated that the town-side of the budget has passed.

Truck – Jossick reported:

- Backordered Marshal's truck parts have arrived and will be installed this week. Expect delivery next week on or before May 30th.
- Engine #441 was involved in a minor two vehicle accident in a non-emergency trip for fuel. There were no injuries.
 - Kevin Stoyak, the driver, was sent to Corporate Health, per insurance policy, for a post-accident screening and had him fill out the required paperwork for the town.
 - He was given a written warning for failure to obey a traffic signal.
 - The damage is mostly cosmetic, but the alignment and frame are being checked for any unforeseen damage.
 - Firematic inspected the truck and suggested keeping it in service.
 - Repair costs are estimated to be \$2,585.59 and will be submitted through insurance.
 - Repairs are scheduled for June 1, 2013.

MOTION: Burton made a motion to install a 108 Harness in the new Fire Marshal's vehicle.

SECONDED: Jossick

Motion passed unanimously

Policies and Procedures – Goosman reported:

- The committee met and reviewed the Tax Abatement Program.
 - Not recommending tier payment schedule
 - Not recommending a change in minimum number of annual calls
 - Recommend removal of section 208-20. Eligibility B #4 – support members, per Company or Association bylaws.
 - Change Commissioner to Fire Commissioner.
 - Members will be going back to the individual fire departments for future discussion by the BOFC.

NUSAR – No report

Purchasing – Burton reported:

- Finance department announced a new accounting system for the entire town – July 2013
- Accounting System training will take place the last week of June – Burton not taking time off from work to attend.
- Training balances: NHL \$3K; SH \$5.2K; United Fire \$2.1K; Hawleyville \$990 and Dodgingtown \$650.
- The Shipman Air Pak Flow Testing is scheduled
- Firefighter's Equipment has a balance – will use for equipment repairs – chief's to prepare a list of items that need repair.

New Business:

- Parade requests/Use of town-owned trucks – Manna
 - The use of town-owned trucks must be submitted through the Truck Committee Chairman for approval (for out of service). Sandy Hook submitted their requests.
- Tanker Specification Committee – Manna
 - This committee will be made up of 8 members: 3 fire commissioners, and one member from each fire department.
 - Tanker replacements are in the five year plan which is coming up (2015-2016)
 - Everyone on this committee needs to complete the State Tanker Shuttle Operating Course.

Training requests –

MOTION: Jossick moved to approve Hawleyville's request in the amount of \$1,623 for FF1, Burn Building and attendance for 5 at the National Fire Academy (Commission on Fire Prevention and Control).

SECONDED: Nezvesky

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Jossick moved to approve Hawleyville's food reimbursement request due to storm Sandy in the amount of 109.14.

SECONDED: Descheneaux

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Jossick moved to approved Hawleyville's request in the amount of \$1,296.00 for Pump Operator; Fire Service Instructor and vehicle rental for Emmetsburg, MD.

SECONDED: Descheneaux

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Burton moved to accept Sandy Hook's request in the amount of \$5,738.79 for fees associated with travel to Florida.

SECONDED: Goosman

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Cragin moved to accept NH&L's request in the amount of \$200 for Hazmat and Blood borne Pathogen refresher course for entire company.

SECONDED: Goosman

Motion passed unanimously

MOTION: Nezvesky moved to accept United Fire and Rescue's request in the amount of \$2,684.65 for hotel charges for 5 members at FDIC.

Seconded: Jossick

Motion passed unanimously

Nezvesky reported that Newtown children were given free-ride wrist bands during Botsford's carnival last month. Over 100 bands were distributed.

Old Business:

- Tax Abatement – discussed under committee reports.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Hennessey
Secretary

SANDY HOOK

HOOK and LADDER

DODGINGTOWN

Newtown Combined Fire Companies

-Incorporated-

Newtown, Connecticut 06470

BOTSFORD

HAWLEYVILLE

Chiefs Meeting May 1, 2013

1. Radio system upgrade- Maureen Will in discussion with Northeastern, Pat Llodra and Bob Tait, next 3-5 years. Looking at possibly using existing Towers in Oxford, Monroe, Brookfield
2. Phone system Upgrade- Phone system in firehouses with the exception of Hawleyville need to be upgraded, approximate cost 3-5 thousand per station depending on number of phones.
3. Regional Dispatch- Still being worked on possible player Northwest, Middlebury, and Trumbull- Article coming out in Bee
4. Companies have requested Kevin Cragin to be our representative to distribution committee- Newtown Fund
5. Knox Box- Chiefs are again requesting Secure Boxes be installed in any vehicle that carries a Knox Box Key. Will be changing signature cards so Fire Marshal can sign for any company that wants them to.
6. Chiefs are revising Town Wide SOG 002- Fire Ground Radio channels and a New SOG for accountability.