

Public Safety Commission
FIRE DEPARTMENT
June 20, 2016
MINUTES
COMMUNITY ROOM, MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPT.
-----Minutes-----

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Santangelo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Mary Bartolotta
Commissioner Carl Chisem
Commissioner Deborah Kleckowski
Commissioner Phil Pessina
Commissioner Robert Santangelo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Fire Chief Robert Kronenberger
Acting Deputy Fire Chief Al Leary

STAFF ABSENT

PUBLIC PRESENT

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Commissioner Santangelo asked for approval of the minutes from May 16, 2016. Commissioner Chisem moved the motion, Commissioner Pessina seconded and all voted in favor.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

6. MONTHLY REPORT

- Monthly report given by Chief Kronenberger:
 - Call comparison:
 - Last month down roughly 13% - 347 is the average and year to date is within ten calls
 - Change made to response protocols:
 - Worked with the four fire districts (3 in Middletown and 1 in Portland), the communications center and Middlesex Hospital
 - Reducing runs to skilled nursing facilities (Community Health Center and doctor's offices) as they are on a higher level
 - Will continue to still be on calls for cardiac arrests and major incidents
 - Audit done of calls and will reduce volume
 - Fires down almost 50% from last year – positive trend
 - Training:
 - Took month of May to complete lot of yearly obligations, TB testing, hose testing
 - Did technical training at Empower Zip Lines
 - Beneficial as nasty call came in where woman hit a tree in high winds
 - Chief Kronenberger announced that the mayor has taken his recommendation and put Lt. Al Leary forward for confirmation for the position of Deputy Fire Chief
 - Started today as Acting Deputy Chief
 - All welcomed and congratulated Acting Deputy Chief Leary

8. OLD BUSINESS

- Alarm Division Bucket truck
 - Councilman Chisem working with Public Works Department on this
 - Looking to make it a shared asset between multiple departments
- Contract negotiations still going very well – optimistic that they will wrap up relatively soon
- Appropriation for yearend:
 - Chief Kronenberger thanked everyone for their support

9. NEW BUSINESS

- Facilities update:
 - Department bursting at the seams
 - Ladder truck stored at Matt transit
 - City of Meriden storing a spare engine inside so it didn't freeze over winter
 - Approached Mayor's office and after first of year looking to use LoCIP money to build a storage facility in corner of Cross Street facility
 - Talked to Planning and Zoning and a Public Hearing will be needed and a variance
 - Looking to build a 40x60 foot building and get rid of the two sheds currently back there to store critical assets

- Mile Lane facility was vandalized – reluctant to put storage there for this year
 - Cameras has been installed
 - Commissioner Santangelo stated the idea of a storage facility started about 10-15 years ago
 - Glad to see that Chief is taking the initiative to get this done as there are a lot of assets that are not being taken care of
 - Commissioner Bartolotta asked about the history of Mile Lane and Chief Kronenberger explained the following:
 - Mile Lane started off as a public safety site, initially earmarked for a regional fire training center with state funds but may not see those funds
 - Military grade building that is currently being used as storage by multiple city agencies
 - Some forward steps have been taken: keyless entry, cameras, electronic infrastructure
 - Chief envisions part of the building as the city EOC, lot of usable space
 - Chief Kronenberger feels that it could be used as fire storage but presence is needed and he would prefer his assets to be closer
 - Chief Kronenberger stated that he would be more than happy to walk the commission through the property – Commissioner Bartolotta would like to see that move forward to get a discussion going
 - Cost to build a 40x60 building is approximately between \$130,000-\$150,000 which includes heat & insulation – would house just about all spare equipment including spare ladder truck, extra engine, decontamination trailer, etc.

10. **Monthly Summary of Action Taken by the Telecommunications Committee**

- Minutes of meeting held on June 6, 2016 were available in meeting packet

11. **Public Hearing Reopened – Other Matters**

- Member of the public wanted to discuss the new blue trash cans that were issued
 - Was told that no one was at the meeting who could address this – need to address with Public Works/Sanitation Department

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Santangelo called to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Ruffino
Recording Secretary

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON JULY 18, 2016