

**Public Safety Commission**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**October 15, 2012**  
**MINUTES**  
**COMMUNITY ROOM, MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPT.**  
-----**Minutes**-----

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Tom Serra called the meeting to order at **9:32 p.m.**

**a) Items added to “Other Matters” -**

**2. ATTENDANCE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairman Robert Santangelo  
Commissioner Phil Pessina  
Commissioner Hope Kasper  
Commissioner Thomas Serra  
Commissioner Debbie Kleckowski

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Chief Gary Ouellette

**PUBLIC PRESENT:**

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Chairman Santangelo moved to approve September 17, 2012 minutes. Commissioner Serra moved the motion. Chairman Santangelo and Commissioner Pessina abstained from the vote (absent at last meeting). All voted in favor.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**5. CORRESPONDENCE –**

- a. Connecticut Children’s Medical Center thank you letter for participating in last year’s toy drive.
- b. Green Street Arts Center thank you for all the tours of Fire Headquarters.

**6. MONTHLY REPORT**

- 328 total calls for service for the month of August.
- 42 service calls to Wesleyan University
- Alarms –24 service calls to Wesleyan
- Fire Marshal’s Office had 30 calls in September for Wesleyan
- MFD started the yearly Adopt-a-Firefighter program in September for all the elementary schools. This program continues throughout the school year
- MFD had a walk through for the new MRI facility at Middlesex Hospital
- MFD has voluntarily invited OSHA to come in and do an inspection of Fire Headquarters and Cross Street Station. We do not anticipate any problems
- MFD firefighters participated in the Tip-a-Firefighter event at Tuscany Grill to raise money for MARC. The event was a huge success
- MFD calendars are available and on sale. All proceeds will benefit MARC

- Firefighter Drew France has been selected as Firefighter of the year for exchange club. There will be a dinner honoring him and others in October at the Aquaturf. Drew is also the Harbor Master for Middletown. Commissioner Pessina suggested that the Public Safety Commission write a letter endorsing Drew France's nomination. Commissioner Pessina motioned, Commissioner Kleckowski seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the letter

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

- New Engine – Chief Ouellette stated that he is waiting for the Finance department to make a decision as to when it would be a good time for bonding for the new engine. The plan is to only bond half the cost of the new engine, while the rest will come out of the fund balance. The new engine committee will meet beginning next week. It is projected that it will take 10 months to build the new engine. MFD will be replacing an engine that has over 10,000 hours on it. It is cost prohibitive to refurbish the engine (cost would be approximately \$200,000). If we sell it now we can make about \$50,000. CVH bought MFD last engine for about \$50K. The ladder truck will be paid in 10 years (10 year bond). Commissioner Kasper would like to therefore sell the old ladder truck prior to purchasing the new engine. She feels the proceeds could offset the cost of the new engine. Chief Ouellette stated that the proceeds of the sale of the old ladder will actually offset the cost of the new ladder truck. The old ladder truck will probably not be repaired and sold for about 5 months. The bucket controls need to be fixed and the parts to fix it are difficult to obtain. A new engine will cost approximately \$425K. Chief Ouellette stated that it would not be advisable to wait to sell the old ladder before ordering the new engine. Commissioner Pessina motioned to go forward with the purchase of the new engine. Commissioner Kleckowski seconded the motion. Commissioner Kasper voiced her concerns and will not approve of it. 4 to 1 voted in favor of the new engine purchase. Chief Ouellette stated that MFD fund balance is 1.1 million dollars.
- Apparatus Storage - MFD needs approximately 3500 square feet for apparatus storage. Emergency Management needs 1,500 sq. feet. Chairman Santangelo suggested that Berlin Street be considered as a site for the apparatus storage project. He felt that each department should separately purchase “sheds” for storage as opposed to building one massive storage space. Each storage space would be developed as needed. Currently MFD has a million dollar's worth of equipment that needs to be stored. Chief Ouellette mentioned that the MFD shed needs to be heated to about 50degrees. Chairman Santangelo asked Chief Ouellette to come up with some projected costs.
- Dive team truck – The Dive Team truck should be delivered next week. All work to fabricate the truck will be done by firefighters. The truck did receive new tires.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **9. Monthly Summary of Action Taken by the Telecommunications Committee**

*October Telecommunications meeting attached.*

## **10. OTHER MATTERS** –pessina wants to thank chief for fire ops. Learned what it is all about. Top shelf.

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

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Santangelo moved to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jody Krupa  
Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETINGS TO BE HELD ON December 17, 2012 & January 28, 2013**