

BURLINGTON FIRE COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

January 12, 2016

The Meeting of the Burlington Fire Commission convened at 0831 hours in the Chief's office with Commissioners Perkinson, McLaughlin, Sheehey and Sweeney present. Also present were Deputy Chief Peter Brown (Interim Chief), Deputy Chief R. Plante, Deputy Chief A. Collette, Capitol Improvement Program Manager M. Keenan, and Administrative Assistant M. Sweeney.

Meeting End Time

Meeting end time set for 0900 hours by motion of Commissioner Sweeney and seconded by Commissioner McLaughlin.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Commissioner Perkinson asked if any changes needed to be made to December Commission Minutes. With no objections or changes minutes were accepted and submitted.

Presentation of Commissions

Commission Awards were presented to Deputy Chief Plante and Lieutenant Mulac.

Update on Capitol Improvement Plan

Martha Keenan, Capitol Improvement Program Manager, updated the commission on the City's plans for the capitol improvements. There is currently a four year plan being worked on that addresses the need for four new fire trucks. The city recognizes that the trucks are currently on a 20 year rotation plan which should be closer to 10. There is no answer on where the funding is coming from yet, but will likely be smaller bonds. There is also money going into fixing up streets which will help with vehicle maintenance costs. Construction projects will be coordinated with other projects (ie: water department maintenance) to minimize extra work on a site that was just worked on.

Deputy Chief Brown added another one of the automobiles from the department will either need to be replaced or have major work done to fix it. The I1 vehicle (Fire Marshal's vehicle) has already had a lot of work done in the past couple of years and it may not be worth putting more into it.

Chief's Oral Report

- The position for the Fire Alarm Technician has been reposted and the pay rate has been increased. In the mean time the work will no longer be done by the city's electrical inspector, but instead hired through Safety Systems of Vermont.
- There have been several fires including one in a dishwasher at Hotel Vermont. DC Brown received an email recognizing the department's fast response and efficient work during that incident.
- The Paramedic program is going well. There was some issues with getting the additional pay for members figured out, but that issue has been resolved. A resident of the new north end was the recipient of paramedic level care after going into cardiac arrest. The patient has since been released from the hospital and has returned home. Physicians from the hospital have written a letter commending the work that was done to save this patient.
- We have acquired a used van from the police department for the Fire Alarm Technician. It is currently being used by BC Simays since he was previously using I1.

- Our new Chief Engineer, Steven Locke, will be starting in February. He is currently finishing up his duties in Hartford, but he has had a lot of contact with the command staff here in preparation.
- Deputy Chief Collette worked with the city and IT department to access a cloud based program that will give information on the different water hydrants in the city. DC Collette requested to have information added that would indicate what type of flow was associated with the hydrant. By the end of the day the program was updated with that information.
- The department has started holding IT work sessions. The technology we currently use is very dated.

Old or New Business

- Commissioner Perkinson thanked the command staff for their hard work during this transition time between chiefs.
- Commissioner Perkinson relayed that Commissioner Vincent will be resigning and will not be finishing his term as commissioner.

Open Session

Nothing at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjured at 0902 by motion from Commissioner McLaughlin and seconded by Commissioner Sheehey.