

# Cromwell Fire District

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FIRE DISTRICT OFFICE  
WATER DIVISION  
COMMUNICATION CENTER

FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Public Safety Tower Committee**  
**Friday, March 22, 2024, 10:00 AM**  
**Cromwell Police Department Headquarters**  
**Community Room**  
**3 West Street**  
**Cromwell, CT**

Present: Police Chief Fred Sifodaskalakis (Co-Chair), Commissioner Charles Epstein (Co-Chair), Capt. Steve Penn, Commissioner Donald Smith, Water Operations Manager Joseph Palmieri, Communications Center Manager Justin Lonergan and President Roger Rukowicz. Tower Manager Angel Alvarado was on speaker phone. Absent were Donald Swanson (Emeritus), Town Manager Anthony Salvatore, Executive Director Roger Hart and Fire Chief Jason Brade.

- I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM by Co-Chair Chief Sifodaskalakis.
- II. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Palmieri, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the agenda as submitted.
- III. Public Comment. There were no public comments to report.
- IV. Old Business. Mr. Alvarado reported they are moving forward on the generator. The Committee had originally given their approval for a refresh service to the generator at a cost of \$110,000. That quote was done in 2021. The updated number is \$118,000 which is still under the budgeted amount of \$120,000. The work consisted of a larger alternator in the generator for the upsurge and five separate ATS's for each provider room. Behind the storage shed there are independent circuits through all the ATS's correcting circuits that are tapped out. The funding is in place. The work is scheduled for this spring. He saw the generator and confirmed it is on its last leg.
- V. New Business
  - A. Update on Security Access – J. Lonergan. Mr. Lonergan reported that this year they hope to move forward with their camera replacement program and access control which includes the Tower site. He distributed information on the plan for replacement of the camera system. Access controls was not part of the information distributed. There will be gate access and access controls on the two rooms occupied by the Town and the Fire District. Part of the plan is for the pump houses to get some cameras and access controls. He distributed copies of the camera views at various sites. It will be sharable between the

Police Department and Fire District through the Milestone platform. He took the costs and broke them down between the Fire District and the Tower Fund. The total cost from the Tower Fund to be reimbursed half by the Fire District. would be \$40,000. \$20,000 would be reimbursed. The quote is 18 mos. old. Mr. Lonergan is waiting for a refresh quote. The total cost currently is \$36,000. He figured \$20,000 from the Fire District and \$20,000 from the Town's funds for the Tower. There is a Tower upgrade fund that has a \$5,000 contribution annually from both the Fire District and Police Department. Mr. Alvarado will check with Mr. Lupkas on what is in the Tower Upgrade fund. Utility Communications will be the vendor.

***A motion was made by Mr. Lonergan, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and unanimously approved to table this item until the next meeting when the Tower Upgrade Fund can be researched.***

- B. Tower Fence Repair – J. Palmieri. Mr. Palmieri reported they have done a lot of fence additions and repairs at their Chemfeed building. Once that was completed, they had some issues to fix at the Tower. Poles were falling, the fence was rippled. The mesh was repaired. The quote for the site was \$6,000. There was another \$500 that was added to that. He submitted a copy of the invoice for the record. The work has been done. Everything looks great. The fence was old. The Water Division has covered all of the cost and is looking to have the Tower Committee reimburse the Water Division for half of the cost. The Water Division is requesting \$3,250 from the Tower Fund.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and unanimously approved to authorize the Tower Committee to reimburse the Water Division from the Tower Repair Fund \$3,250 for fence repair work at the Tower that was financed by the Water Division Maintenance of Reservoirs fund.***

- C. Update on Tower Financial Report. Mr. Alvarado did not have the final adjustments for this quarter. The report he received from Mr. Lupkas for February had 60% rehabilitation of the budget for the year. The contribution was \$61,043.18. There was a payment in April and one in August from the Town and the District. \$29,214 in April and August. Mr. Alvarado will be meeting with Mr. Lupkas later today to clarify.

- VI. Commissioners' Comments. Commissioner Epstein asked about the upgrades for the providers. AT&T did the initial investment for the reinforcement of the structure. T-Mobile and Verizon had to reimburse AT&T through the District in order to get their modifications done because AT&T covered the entire cost which was \$120,000. AT&T was reimbursed \$40,000 by T-Mobile and Verizon. Upgrades should begin within the next 2 weeks.
- VII. Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Lonergan, seconded by Mr. Palmieri and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Fred Sifodaskalakis, Co-Chair

Nancy Deegan  
Recording Secretary