

Cromwell Fire District

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FIRE DISTRICT OFFICE
WATER DIVISION

FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Fire and Water Divisions

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 6:00 PM

Coles Road Firehouse

105 Coles Road

Cromwell, CT

The Commissioners of the Cromwell Fire District held their monthly Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at the Coles Road Firehouse, 105 Coles Road, Cromwell, CT to discuss and act upon Fire and Water Division business.

Commissioners Roger Rukowicz (President), Charles Epstein, Robert McIntyre, Donald Smith, Donald Goranson and Steven Wygonowski attended. Also in attendance was Executive Director Roger Hart.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, by President Rukowicz. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Rukowicz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner McIntyre, seconded by Commissioner Wygonowski and unanimously approved to accept the agenda as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Wygonowski, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting of May 21, 2024, as submitted.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS & WRITTEN APPEALS TO THE BOARD

There were none.

REPORTS OF THE STAFF

- A. Executive Director. The Executive Director's report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Wygonowski and unanimously approved to accept the Executive Director's report for May as presented.

- B. Financial Report. The Financial Report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Wygonowski and unanimously approved to accept the Finance Report for May as presented.

- C. Fire Department Chief. The Chief's Report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office. There was a discussion about Townwide Fire and EMS coverage with the upcoming PGA event coupled with a record-breaking heat wave.

A motion was made by Commissioner Goranson, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the Fire Chief's report for May as submitted.

1. Fire Marshal's Office. The Fire Marshal's Report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner McIntyre and unanimously approved to accept the Fire Marshal's report for May as submitted.

- D. Communication Center Report. The Communication Center Report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office. Mr. Hart noted that the project for installing air conditioning in the server room at West Street will begin shortly.

A motion was made by Commissioner Epstein, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the Communication Center Report for May as submitted.

- E. Water Operations. The Water Director's report for May had been previously distributed and reviewed. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District. There was a discussion on the number of gallons pumped in dry months vs. wet months.

A motion was made by Commissioner Goranson, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the Water Operations report for May as submitted.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Executive Committee. There was no meeting.
- B. Public Safety Tower. There was no meeting.

- C. Water Operations. The meeting scheduled for June 26, 2024 at 5:30 PM had to be cancelled because it conflicts with an MDC meeting that Mr. Palmieri and Mr. Hart have to attend.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments to report.

CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

- A. Report of the Town Council Liaison. There was no report.
- B. Reports of the Special Committees
1. Pension Committee. A meeting was held May 22, 2024. Minutes had been previously distributed for review. A copy is attached to the minutes on file in the Fire District Office. Commissioner McIntyre said the meeting with Wells Fargo Advisors went well and that the pension fund is solvent, and investments have made up for earlier losses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Epstein, seconded by Commissioner Smith and unanimously approved to accept the Pension Committee meeting minutes of May 22, 2024 as submitted.
 2. Health, Safety & Facilities. The next quarterly meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Monday, July 22, 2024, at 10:30 AM.
 3. Budget & Oversight Committee. No meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner's Comments. Commissioner Wygonowski asked the ED about the CCM Study. Mr. Hart said that he had an initial introductory meeting with the two men from CCM who will be conducting the study. Nothing substantial has yet been discussed. President Rukowicz commented on the recent line of duty death of State Trooper Aaron Pelletier and suggested that the District make a \$100 donation to his "go fund me" page. Commissioner Goranson commented on the friendliness and courtesy shown by Squad 1 to walkers in the Covenant Living community on a very busy Saturday.
- Budgetary Adjustments. There were no adjustments to report.
- Approval of Contracts/Contractors. There were no contracts or contractors to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Epstein commented on the line of duty death of Minneapolis Police Officer Jamal Mitchell. As the remains of the former New Haven resident were returned home, the Cromwell Fire Department joined Rocky Hill Fire Department and others around the state in displaying the flag from various overpasses.

At 7:00 PM a motion was made by Commissioner Goranson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to enter into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Wygonowski had to leave the meeting at 7:00 PM due to a previous commitment. Mr. Hart stayed and provided the following notes:

- A. ***Non Union Employees Salaries FY 2024-2025, A motion was made by Commissioner Goranson, seconded by Commissioner to increase the salary of all non-union employees by 3% effective July 1, 2024. Commissioners Smith, McIntyre, Epstein and Goranson voted Aye, Commissioner Rukowicz voted Nay. The motion carried.***
- B. ***Non-union Employee Medical Cost Share FY 2024-2025. A motion was made by Commissioner Epstein and seconded by Commissioner Smith to increase the employee Health Insurance cost share for all non-union employees by 1% effective July 1, 2024. Commissioners Smith, Rukowicz, Epstein and Goranson voted Aye, Commissioner McIntyre voted Nay. The motion carried.***
- C. ***Executive Director Salary. A motion was made by Commissioner Goranson, seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously to increase the yearly salary of the Executive Director effective immediately. The motion carried.***

The Executive Session ended at 7:43 on a motion made by Commissioner McIntyre, seconded by Commissioner Goranson and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Epstein, seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM.

ATTEST
Janet Schmaltz
Recording Secretary

Charles Epstein, Secretary