

Public Safety Commission
FIRE DEPARTMENT
September 14, 2015
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 Rob Santangelo
Commissioner Sebastian Giuliano
Commissioner Deborah Kleckowski
Commissioner Hope Kasper
Commissioner Thomas Serra

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Fire Chief Robert Kronenberger

STAFF ABSENT

PUBLIC PRESENT

Members of the public

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Commissioner Santangelo asked for approval of the minutes from August 10. Commissioner Giuliano moved the motion and was seconded by Commissioner Santangelo. Three voted in favor to approve with two abstentions, Commissioner Kasper and Commissioner Serra.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter received from South Fire District thanking Middletown Fire for the work done with them on a unique dive rescue on August 19 in which a drowning took place.

6. MONTHLY REPORT

Call Comparison:

- Call volume very high - 7% increase over last month
- 11 fires last month
- EMS/false alarms up slightly – Wesleyan back to campus
 - Will meet with Wesleyan within next couple of weeks to go over their objectives for the year and cover any concerns
- Chief Kronenberger stated that he met with Northeast Diving regarding a interesting proposal that he brought forward to the commission:
 - Northeast Diving is proposing to take the DEP boat that we got off state surplus that was never put into service, the '88 Raballo that was decommissioned and the old pontoon boat that was also decommissioned in return for a brand new Carolina Skiff
 - Carolina Skiff boat, motor, and trailer worth approximately \$22,000.00 – to our advantage and would give coverage year round
 - Commissioner Kleckowski asked the value of the three decommissioned vessels in which Chief Kronenberger stated that the DEP boat was purchased for \$50 off state surplus, the '88 Raballo has hull damage and the pontoon boat may have scrap value because it is aluminum.
 - Commissioner Santangelo asked for a motion to move to Finance & Government, Commissioner Giuliano seconded, and all voted in favor to move forward to Finance & Government. Chief Kronenberger stated that he would put it on the agenda.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- Potential sale of the '99 Marion Pumper
 - looks like it is going to be a go for \$35, 000.00 to Pittsfield, Massachussetts but first has to go through emissions. If any repairs need to be made Pittsfield has agreed to split the cost.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- Couple of months ago Chief Kronenberger stated that he came before the commission for an appropriation but unfortunately there were a couple of other unforeseen expenditures – currently looking for \$34,000.00 to clean off last year that includes a payout to the retired Deputy Chief as well as an increase of the overtime. Finance was looking to push it to Finance & Government last year but the Chairman said to bring it to this commission first. Fund balance at last check according to Chief Kronenberger around \$870,000.00 and sale of the pumper should offset the appropriation.
 - Commissioner Serra moved for approval, Commission Santangelo asked to move the motion, it was seconded.
 - Commissioner Serra asked about overtime and compensatory time and if it's out of the overtime in which Chief Kronenberger stated that it is and most of it is for training and is contractual.
 - Commissioner Serra stated that it should be looked at as it is unfair to tax payers and Chief Kronenberger said that it was going to be looked at hard in January at contract negotiations with the Union
 - All voted in favor – motion carried

- Battalion Chief John Ricci retiring with just about 28 years of service in with his last shift this Thursday.
 - Chief Kronenberger stated that he wishes him well and that he will be working with the Department of Transportation.
- Commissioner Serra asked if there is a reason why the Fire Chief and Police Chief vehicles do not have decals on them. Chief Kronenberger stated that the Fire Chief's car has a plate on the front indicating Fire Chief with a municipal plate on the back. Commissioner Serra asked that this be looked into for tax purposes and Chief Kronenberger said he would check this with Finance.

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

- Meeting held earlier today – minutes unavailable at this meeting
- Director of Communications brought forward the report from the consultant with regards to the radio system and there are multiple options on the table

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

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 OCTOBER 21, 2015