

HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, November 15, 2021
Meeting Place:	95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601 and Zoom Meeting and Dial-in Number: 781-368-1701

A quorum being duly present, Chairperson Cronin called the November 15, 2021 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

PRESENT: Chairperson Laura Cronin, Commissioners Dennis Sullivan, Peter Cross, Demetrius Atsalis, and (via Zoom) Victor Skende

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Peter Burke, Deputy Chief Eric Kristofferson, Capt. Mike Medeiros and Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy

I. OPEN SESSION:

1. MINUTES:

- Minutes of the September 23, 2021 deferred to future meeting

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

4. STREET LIGHTS:

- None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. Affirm appt of new Training Captain candidate Lt. Jeffrey Lamothe

- Chief Burke first introduced the newly hired FF David D'Errico, Patrick Holmes, Jordan Shaw, William Simpson, and Robert Wescott to the commissioners
- Commissioners congratulated the new FFs and welcomed them to the HFD team
- Chief Burke then asked the board to affirm the appointment of Lt. Jeffrey Lamothe as the HFD new Training Captain; Chief Burke detailed how the process for filling this position went through the by-law promotional process; both candidates for this position did extraordinarily well

Upon a motion fully made and seconded it was voted to appoint Lt. Jeffrey Lamothe to the position of the HFD Training Captain

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Chairperson Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Sullivan: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

NEW BUSINESS continued

6b. Building Update

- Chief Burke stated that HFD Treasurer Verna LaFleur had received the short-term loan money that was previously voted by the board to secure; Chief Burke asked the commissioners what process they want to use for expenditures and tracking of expenditures going forward against this loan; Chief Burke stated the loan does not fall under regular operating money but rather this short-term note is for building repair and maintenance and therefore he needed to know how to move forward with this short-term loan money
- Commissioner Cronin said one of the goals of that money was for Chief Burke to be able to get the building work done as needed and for him to bring the invoice to the board for review
- Commissioner Cross stated he and Commissioner Skende had previously asked Chief Burke for a list of building items that needed to be fixed and then the commissioners priced out that list and realized \$300,000 was needed; Commissioner Cross stated that since the HFD has received that short-term loan money, that now Chief Burke can execute against that list of building items needed and Commissioner Cross agreed with Chairperson Cronin that Chief Burke should not have to be approved each invoice with the board, but rather report back to the board on the expenditure
- Commissioner Skende said a concern for him was that these building items needed to get done soon; He was concerned that this is a tough time of year to get contractors and subcontractors
- Chief Burke said as he understands it – he will move forward to complete the list of items already discussed with the board and then will bring the invoices through the normal process to the board, but separately from the regular HFD operations budget
- Chairperson Cronin agreed and then added that if there are any expenditures that need to go above what was previously discussed to come back to the board with those items

6c. Audit Update

- Chairperson Cronin said that she and Chief Burke met with the auditors last Thursday and when through the first draft and still have some changes to do and some items to get such as backup documentation; this process should be finished in December 2021
- Chief Burke said at the end of this audit process we should have a really good understanding of what the district spend was and also have a very good process in place, but he understands how frustrating the audit time frame has been for the board members
- Commissioner Cross said we are looking forward to the end of the audit so we can finalize the bond, verify what was spent, and we need the audit to be finished so we can do this

7. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

- None

8. CHIEF'S REPORT

- Still working on the 2 long-term injuries
- Capt. Mike Medeiros has received \$850,000 from the Ambulance Reimbursement Program; we also received \$154,000 from the Covid-19 Relief Fund we are pursuing any grant money that is available to us – Capt. Medeiros has been doing all of this great work obtaining this funding
- Commissioner Cross added that Capt. Medeiros is also interfacing with the Training Captain for all of the EMS training
- We have 1 FF vacancy; we have a couple of candidates that we may put through the process with a possible candidate to bring before you for the January meeting
- The FF Academy graduation was today – we have 3 FFs who graduated; FF Teddy Duchesney was the top graduate in the class
- HFD award ceremony will be on 11/16 at 5 PM and will take 2 hours
- We were very successful in the IAFF Survival Ground Training; 3-day training with 9 internal instructors – all of our FFs went through the training – led primarily by Lt. John Daley; Lt. Paul Medeiros and Lt. Jonathan Talin helped out too

CHIEF'S REPORT continued

- Chief Burke stated that with the appropriate training, with appropriate equipment and more staff we are now seeing fires put out quicker, less injuries occurring and teams working really well together even when unexpected situations happen during a fire
- We have been considering purchasing a used utility truck to put less used, but still critical emergency equipment on for quicker dispatch and better efficiency while reducing equipment storage overhead; all commissioners agreed this equipment needs to be purchased

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

Vote on Adjournment of public session:

Upon a motion fully made and seconded it was voted to Adjourn the public session

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Chairperson Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye
- Commissioner Sullivan: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye

Adjourned at 7:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Murphy, Recording Secretary
Hyannis Fire District