

HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Approved R Cronin
6/8/23

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, April 13, 2023
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 April 13, 2023 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting to order at 7:13 PM

PRESENT: Chairperson Laura Cronin, Commissioners Peter Cross, Alex Mercado, Demetrius Atsalis, and Victor Skende

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Peter Burke, Deputy Chief Mark Storie, Captain David Webb, and Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy

Absent: District Clerk-Treasurer TK Menesale

I. OPEN SESSION:

1. MINUTES:

- The transcribed Meeting minutes will be voted on at the next meeting

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

4. STREET LIGHTS:

- None

5. OLD BUSINESS

- None

Chairperson Cronin took the meeting out of order for Captain Webb to report on the myriad of responsibilities, activities, and the findings of the HFD Fire Prevention Emergency Planning Division team

- This is a specific team within the HFD focused on fire prevention emergency planning; this team reports directly to Chief Burke
- HFD is required to investigate all fires; the Fire Prevention Emergency Planning Division is the team who does these fire investigations
- Another aspect of the team is doing the safety inspections for commercial and retail space with a focus on safety compliance; it conducts smoke and carbon monoxide inspections for private house sales; this team works closely with other town inspectional agencies; it performs required school & health facility fire drills; it provides public fire prevention and fire safety education; this team is responsible for all aspects of fire department permitting
- Capt. Webb reviewed some of the modernization the team has implemented due to the Covid19 Pandemic
- Capt. Webb discussed the types of property classifications that make up Hyannis and how many calls the HFD respond to for those specific property classifications
- The board discussed some of the findings from the HFD Fire Prevention Emergency Planning Division team

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. Assistant Chief Contract:

- Pertaining to this year, Chief Burke stated that the By-laws were changed to create the new Assistant Chief position; the Assistant Chief contract was formatted to be based on Chief Burke's contract except for the salary and vacation parameters; both contracts have been reviewed by the HFD lawyer

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to accept the contract for the Assistant Chief position

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Mercado: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

- The board discussed Chief Burke's contract
- Presently, Chief Burke's contract is valid until June 30, 2026

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to accept the contract of employment of Chief Burke as presented

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Mercado: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

- The board discussed the Assistant Chief position which will start on April 17, 2023; at that point in time, HFD will then have an opening for the Deputy Chief position

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to allow Chief Burke to fill the Assistant Chief position

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Mercado: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

6b. Copy of the By-law Changes:

- Chairperson Cronin said the 2 articles mentioned previously that needed to be updated were the Chief Deputy position language and the By-law language

6c. To Approve Annual Meeting Warrant Articles:

- Commissioner Skende inquired if the board will uphold these Warrant Articles tonight
- Chairperson Cronin said the Warrant Articles are being voted on tonight and Chairperson Cronin further stated these Warrant Articles in its entirety will be on the HFD website and it will be posted in the newspaper

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the Warrant Articles which will be posted to the HFD website and placed in the newspaper

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Mercado: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

6d. To Approve Free Cash Allocation to Reduce the FY24 Tax Levy:

- Chairperson Cronin said the Free Cash item was reviewed and it will be decided once the final budget is presented at a later date this year
- The board discussed needed clarifications and what needs to be done so that any needed details can be reviewed before a decision is finalized
- Commissioner Cross wanted to make sure the By-law language regarding the Free Cash item highlights the 6 weeks at the end of the fiscal year revenue that is not known at the time of the Annual Meeting

- Chairperson Cronin stated she wants to make sure that the public should be able to understand the various items in the budget
- Chief Burke added that the spreadsheets HFD provides shows the changes to any budget items so that it can be easily seen what budget items have increased or decreased year over year
- The board discussed the valuations and the tax rate

7. BUILDING REPORT

- Commissioner Skende said he noticed there is a short-term loan for \$250,000 in the Building Fund
- Chief Burke said we are not done with the Building item; Commissioner Skende stated that we should then carry that loan into 2024 as there are a few open items that need to be completed

8. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

- None

9. CHIEF'S REPORT

- Chief Burke said the 5 Fire District and the Barnstable Police participated in a drill at the Barnstable High School and the findings from that drill will be presented to the commissioners next meeting
- The HFD is working on the marine boats issues and the Chief will keep the commissioners posted as answers and options materialize
- Chief Burke will update the Zoom membership because it is widely used and easier for the public to join the meetings
- Deputy Storie has revised the HFD Run Card; the Run Card is how the HFD balances resources within the HFD and shares resources within the Cape Cod fire department community
- Deputy Storie presented the HFD Run Card revisions and how these revisions help HFD to utilize its resources to the best of its abilities and how it helps HFD share its resources with other Cape towns
- Chief Burke handed out the Capitol Auto Assessment to the board
- A new EPA regulation is stating that any engine replacement in 2023, about 2 weeks from tonight, will have to be fuel-agnostic; this type of engine will be more expensive than the traditional diesel truck engines
- If HFD orders this new engine in the next week then the HFD will save if an engine is bought now; savings could easily start at \$500k; the Main Street zoning buildings change (i.e. buildings will be able to be built to 4 stories) will affect the number and type of trucks (i.e. aerial access capabilities) needed to service this district
- Chief Burke stated we should take advantage before new pricing happens; we have money left over from the salary line to vehicle service line in the budget; this possible purchase should not change the FY24 budget; we are in the financial position to make this engine decision now
- The board gave the directive to Chief Burke to move forward with research on a possible new fuel-agnostic engine
- Chief Burke will present his fuel-agnostic engine research to the commissioners by April 27, 2023
- Chief Burke said call volume is 2085; this volume is 155 calls under from last year

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

- FF Mike Damalu thanked the commissioners for its continued support of the Fire Chief and the HFD FFs
- Deputy Chief Storie thanked the commissioners for the creation of the new Assistant Chief position

Vote on Adjournment of public session:

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

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye

Commissioner Cross: Aye

Commissioner Mercado: Aye

Commissioner Skende: Aye

Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

Adjourned at 8:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Murphy, Recording Secretary Hyannis Fire District

4/11/23

MEETING AGENDA- Amended
HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOTICE OF MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(b)
Laura Cronin- Chair

DATE OF MEETING: April 13, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: 95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601

REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

On **April 13, 2023** a meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be conducted AT THE HYANNIS FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS. Real-time Public comment can be addressed to the Board utilizing the Zoom link or telephone number and access code listed below:

Link: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/8068284804>
Meeting ID: 806 828 4804
For Public Comment Dial: 1-305-224-1968
Password: Hyannis1!

AGENDA & CALL TO ORDER:

I. OPEN SESSION

1. Minutes
2. Correspondence
3. Public Comment
4. Street Lights
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - a.) Assistant Chief/ Deputy Contract
 - b.) Copy of By-Law Changes
 - c.) To approve Annual Meeting Warrant Articles
 - d.) To approve free cash allocation to reduce the FY24 tax levy
7. Building Report
8. Items not reasonably anticipated by Chair
9. Chief's Report
10. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURN

The Chair reserves the right to call items on the agenda out of order. Items are listed in their approximate order, and items may be reached earlier or later than the posted order. Items listed for executive session may also be discussed in open session. The listing of items contains those items reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Persons interested are advised that in the event that any matter taken up at the meeting that remains unfinished at the close of the meeting may be put off to a continued session of the meeting, in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.