

**Fire Commissioners Meeting
Draft Minutes
May 12, 2020**

Remote Zoom Meeting

Present: Commissioner's Rick Pisano, Adam Zais, Kevin Conley, Fire Chief Paul Rhude.

Recording on Zoom

Public Comment: Cynthia Gardner asked if public comment could be moved to the end of the meeting. Commissioner Pisano replied he would prefer not, have a lot to discuss.

Minutes: previous minutes reviewed and accepted as presented.

Fire Chief Report:

Monthly Activities

Incident Report:

- Reviewed report

Administration:

- Good supply of PPE
- Hope to use SAFE grant money to buy N95s for seniors in the community
- COVID procedures: sterilize the station once a week with fogger, still using three group system with no standby or overtime will return to four groups on the 22nd. Commissioner Conley would like it to go on record that he appreciates the cooperation of the Union with the group flexibility.
- Commissioner Pisano asked about the possibility of returning to the three shifts if COVID returns, yes, the Fire Chief and Union have discussed this.
- Commissioner Zais asked how having three shifts affected the budget-Chief Rhude replied it was a slightly higher than overtime costs.
- Discussed VFIS insurance for covering the salary for injured FF-VFIS has not given a price for this though as been asked numerous times.
- Deputy working on updating SOG's and putting on the cloud
- Returned leased printer and purchased two desktop printers

Training:

- No live training, only electronic on ProEMS and Firehouse training for required documentation.

Personnel:

- All healthy

Apparatus:

- All in service. Getting the boat in water within the next week

Facilities:

- Renovations are on hold.

New Business:

- Discussed gate at Brittany Road. Chief would like to send a letter to the Town Manager. Reasons for letter were discussed. Commissioner Pisano asked for a motion to endorse sending a letter and have the gate removed. Commissioner Zais seconded, in favor Commissioner

Pisano, Commissioner Zais, Commissioner Conley abstained. Motion passed 2-0, Chief Rhude will draft a copy and send to the town plus will update the Commissioners.

Capital Plan:

- Commissioner Pisano previously distributed Capital Plan proposal for review. Commissioner Zais commented he is thinking the Policy Advisory Committee is looking for greater transparency around budgets and the Silvio Genao's summary was driven from experience in the public sector in general. Commissioner Pisano read the recommendations and was disturbed by the addition of administrative complexity that in his opinion did not produce clarity and he does not have a problem making more information available. Commissioner Pisano asked Chief Rhude to circulate capital planning numbers to the Commissioners to review and make public. Chief Rhude will share the 10-year plan he has next month-though Commissioner Zais asked that it show building/structure beyond just apparatus.

COVID:

- 11 totals in Cotuit. 5 recovered, 2 fatalities, 4 positives
- Commissioner Conley asked about the weekly calls. Was agreed that next Monday will be the last one and will start calls up again if needed.

Capital/Budget Review:

- Commissioner Pisano reviewed budget proposal that was initially submitted to Prudential.
- Copies of draft article warrant was previously distributed. Discussed need for new vehicles and options including have currently Chief vehicle looked at to see how much repairs would cost.
- Commissioner Pisano asked for a motion to strike \$21,000 from the Administrative Assistant line item on budget and proposed and modify the warrant for capital expenditure to reflect a single vehicle at \$45,000-second all in favor Commissioners Pisano, Conley, Zais.

Fire Chief Contract:

Commissioner Pisano made a motion that the Board approves the fourth-year contract extension for Chief Rhude and clarifies that the contract includes an extension of the 2.5% cost of living increase into the fourth year. Discussion continued-Commissioner Pisano is determined to formulate a new contract in the fall. Commissioner Zais second. All in favor Pisano, Conley, Zais.

Motion made to adjourn, second, all in favor.