

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Wednesday, April 3, 2019.

Those in attendance included Mayor Elinor Carbone and Commissioners Angelo LaMonica, Douglas Benedetto, Robert Conforti, Glenn McLeod, Richard Zaharek, and Darlene Battle.

Also present were Police Chief Bill Baldwin, Jr., Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, Fire Marshall Ed Bascetta, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Emergency Management Director Paul Rabeuf, and Campion Ambulance EMT Mark Zarrella.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS/PINNING CEREMONIES

Chief Baldwin presented Honorable Service Awards to Officers James Dickey, Jason Richardson, and Nicholas Lettieri for their response to the fire at Stoneridge Drive on January 3, 2019. He also recognized Sergeant Kevin Sultaire for his supervisory efforts at the same incident.

Fire Marshall Ed Bascetta announced the winners of the fire prevention poster contest and presented the award to his grandson who was in attendance.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION

On a motion by Commissioner Zaharek, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Hannah Yabrosky as a regular member of the Torrington Police Department, having completed her field training on March 26, 2019.

MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held March 6, 2019.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica, the Board voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public.

Paul Rabeuf alerted the Board that the triennial accreditation of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital will be coming up in 2019.

FF Michael Farrell informed the Board that the Fire and Police unions will be hosting a public safety fitness challenge at Energy Fitness on May 30, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. to raise money for five different Torrington area youth sports organizations. He provided a brief explanation of the event and challenged the Mayor to assemble a team of City Hall employees.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Chief's reports.

Commissioner Benedetto questioned why the Board did not receive the March, 2019 report in their agenda packets. Assistant City Clerk Jon Draper explained that the agenda packets are prepared and distributed to Board members before the end of the month preceding each meeting. He stated that the March, 2019 report would be included in the agenda packet for the meeting on May 1, 2019.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF'S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to accept Deputy Fire Chief Tripp's reports.

TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept Training Officer Shopey's reports.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Conforti, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Emergency Management reports.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Marshal's reports.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Police Chief's reports.

Commissioner Benedetto requested clarification regarding the DWI and OT grants that were awarded to the Police Department. Chief Baldwin explained the grants and how they are tracked.

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS UNIT REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Conforti, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Pisarski's Traffic Operations Unit report.

Commissioner Benedetto asked how the Police Department intends to recover significant unpaid fines. Chief Baldwin stated that notices have been sent and warrants may be issued through the courts.

EMS PROVIDER ACTIVITY REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS Provider Activity reports.

Commissioner Benedetto requested clarification regarding assists from the Fire Department. Mr. Zarrella stated that the assists occur when Campion responds to a call and needs additional support from the Fire Department.

BUSINESS BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

On a motion by Commissioner Conforti, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Volunteer Fire Departments.

Drakeville VFD announced that the Department will be hosting a pancake breakfast on April 28, 2019.

BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads.

Chief Baldwin provided an update on the intersection of Tarringford West Street and Kennedy Drive and reported that the Police Department hired two new per diem animal control officers.

Deputy Chief Tripp announced that the City was re-designated by the State of CT Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) as a Heart-Safe community. He stated that there will be a free NARCAN training on April 25, 2019 at the Torrington Library and reported that the Police and Fire Departments received a combination grant through the Charlotte Hungerford Hospital for 40 doses of NARCAN. He expressed his satisfaction with the most recent C.E.R.T. event and stated his gratitude and appreciation for the TFD fire fighters.

BUSINESS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and members of the Board of Public Safety.


The Board commended the Fire and Police Department members for their response to the fire at Stoneridge Drive. Commissioner Benedetto thanked the Fire Department and Campion Ambulance for their quick response to a fire at his business. Commissioner Zaharek expressed his concerns regarding a new distracted driving initiative. Chief Baldwin provided some background information regarding the distracted driving initiative.

Mayor Carbone updated the Board on progress being made with the public safety budgets, and reported that six of the eight households involved in the Highland Avenue fire have been re-housed. She also informed the Board that the ordinance subcommittee of the City Council is reviewing an ordinance revision which would establish an overnight residential downtown parking permit program.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST: 
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK