

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

Those in attendance included Mayor Elinor Carbone and Commissioners Dustin Bingham, Joseph McElroy, Douglas Benedetto, Robert Conforti and Glenn McLeod. Commissioner Darlene Battle arrived at 6:37 p.m.

Also present were Acting Police Chief Captain Wayne Newkirk, Traffic Operations Unit Supervisor Steven Pisarski, Fire Chief Peter Towey, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, Trinity Health EMT Mark Zarrella, COO of Trinity Health of New England EMS Robert Dionne, and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital EMS Manager Fred Rosa.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held November 6, 2019. Commissioners Bingham and McElroy abstained.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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

Susan Cook presented information regarding property damage caused by large trailer trucks at Cook Funeral Home and requested that the Board come up with a solution to protect her property by disallowing 18-wheel vehicles to access Summer Street from Litchfield Street.

Fred Rosa thanked the TFD, on behalf of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, for clearing a walkway at the hospital.

Mary Bagnaschi expressed her frustration regarding previous incidents involving the Torrington Housing Authority and the Police Department. Following a request by the Mayor for Ms. Bagnaschi to halt her comments in accordance with C.G.S. §1-232, Ms. Bagnaschi exited the meeting room.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Chief's report. Commissioner Benedetto requested an update on the fire at Marino's Restaurant. Chief Towey and Deputy Chief Tripp described the incident and informed the Board that mutual aid was provided by surrounding towns. Commissioners McLeod and Battle requested information regarding the local EMS plan that was prepared by Chief Towey. Chief Towey explained that the plan includes quarterly evaluations and informed the commissioners that the plan would be reviewed for changes and improvements before it gets renewed in five years. He also explained the process for submitting applications and transferring oversight responsibilities for the Primary Service Area to the City.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

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

TRAINING OFFICER'S REPORT

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

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

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

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

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS UNIT REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Pisarski's Traffic Operations Unit report. Commissioner Benedetto requested an update on fines for parking tickets and Officer Pisarski reported that the Department collects approximately \$10,000 per month.

EMS PROVIDER ACTIVITY REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS Provider Activity report. **Note: The October, 2019 report was not available for the Board to review and accept. The report will be distributed to the Board for review and acceptance at the next regular meeting on January 8, 2020.*

Commissioner Benedetto requested an update on the transition from Campion Ambulance Services to Trinity Health of New England. Mr. Dionne reported that the transition has been smooth and expressed plans to upgrade vehicles and set up a new location in Torrington.

BUSINESS BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the volunteer fire departments. Drakeville VFD reported that the DVFD with WAPJ raised over \$1,500 and numerous bags of food for Friendly Hands Food Bank. Tarringford VFD reported that four prospective volunteers enrolled in firefighter training school.

BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Captain Newkirk reported that there was a good turnout at the Local 442, Police Union food drive on November 16, 2019. Chief Towey reported that TFD staff and the volunteer fire departments attended the last live burn at the Litchfield County Fire Training School. He thanked the TFD and TVFD members who participated in the Light Up Main Street event and reported that almost 90 faculty and staff participated in the first Torrington Public Schools *Stop the Bleed* training which took place during the month of November. Chief Towey also announced that the next Christmas for Kids toy drive will be held on December 14, 2019 at Berkshire Auto, he updated the Board on the local EMS plan and discussed efforts to recruit local residents to the TFD by way of a statewide entry-level testing consortium. EMT Mark Zarrella also reported that Trinity Health will be holding a toy drive at Walmart on December 13, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.


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

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and members of the Board of Public Safety. The Mayor and Board members wished each other a Merry Christmas, thanked Captain Newkirk for his service on the TPD and congratulated him on his retirement. Commissioners McLeod, Conforti and Benedetto also expressed their interest in finding a solution to prevent further property damage at Cook Funeral Home and Mayor Carbone stated that she would discuss one possibility involving a change of address for the destination business with the City's Public Works Department. Commissioner Benedetto also thanked Chief Towey and Deputy Chief Tripp for their attendance at the swearing in ceremony on December 2, 2019, Commissioner McElroy thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and Trinity Health for protecting the City, and Commissioner Bingham thanked Chief Towey for the opportunity to experience the live burn at the Litchfield County Fire Training School. Lastly, Mayor Carbone thanked the TFD and volunteers for participating in the Light Up Main Street event and commended the Tarringford VFD for their Christmas trees.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

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

ATTEST: 
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK