

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Wed., August 2, 2017.

Those in attendance included Mayor Elinor Carbone and Commissioners Darlene Battle, Douglas Benedetto, Robert Conforti, and Glenn McLeod. Also present were Police Chief Michael Maniago, Fire Chief Gary Brunoli, and Campion Ambulance Director of Operations Fred Rosa, along with representatives from the Volunteer Fire Departments.

Commissioners Richard Zaharek and Angelo LaMonica were absent.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. starting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARD CEREMONY

Chief Maniago and Lt. Calabrese awarded Officer Matthew Faulkner, Officer James Dickey and Officer Justin Tomlin with the Exceptional Duty Medal for their bravery, professionalism and restraint in an incident on June 20th.

MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Regular meeting held June 7, 2017.

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Telephonic meeting held on July 3, 2017.

On a motion by Commissioner Battle, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the Special Telephonic meeting held on July 31, 2017.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public. There was no one present who wished to speak.

REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept Fire Chief Brunoli's Report. Chief Brunoli described statewide candidate lists that other states use.

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept Deputy Fire Chief Pepler's Report.

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Battle, the Board voted unanimously to accept Training Officer Tripp's Report. Chief Brunoli said that all staff is fully trained in the use of Narcan.

On a motion by Commissioner Conforti, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Emergency Management Report. Chief Brunoli explained the status of volunteer recruitment.

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

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept Police Chief Maniago's Report. Chief Maniago reported that the Community Outreach in Coe Park is going well.

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

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS Provider Activity Report. Commissioner McLeod requested a heat map indicating areas where overdoses occur.

BUSINESS: VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

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

BUSINESS: VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS Continued

Drakeville said their Flea Market on July 29th was successful.

Torrington reported a successful Car Show on July 14th, and that they are still trying to sell 'Rescue 16'.

BUSINESS: DEPT. HEADS

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

Chief Maniago reported that four officers are in the Academy and one is in Field Training. He said the NWCCC Criminal Justice program donated a suit of body armor for one of their K9 officers. He noted that all officers are trained in the use of Narcan and that eight or nine Block Watches were visited on National Night Out. He thanked his department, the Fire Department, Campion Ambulance and the Volunteer Fire Departments for the unified work they are doing, saying it is unprecedented and unparalleled and that he is proud to be associated with Chief Brunoli and Mr. Rosa.

Chief Brunoli commended his crews for their excellent work at recent fires and reported that he sent a letter to Torrington VFD regarding their low response times due to a lack of volunteers. He pointed out to Mayor Carbone that all emergency services need full access regardless of road construction. Mayor Carbone said she would address this with the Engineering and Public Works Departments.

Mr. Rosa described recent activity as having a lot of peaks and valleys.

BUSINESS: MAYOR & MEMBERS

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.

Commissioner Benedetto asked about Courthouse Parking. Chief Maniago said the plan will be ready very soon. Commissioner Benedetto asked if signage could help recruit volunteer firefighters. Middle School and High School recruitment was discussed.

Commissioner Conforti commended the three officers who received a medal and thanked Chief Maniago, Chief Brunoli and Mr. Rosa for their work. He said the Outreach Center receives positive feedback and agreed that the lack of volunteer firefighter recruits is difficult to solve.

Commissioner McLeod noted that Sgt. Wityak was understanding and compassionate at the scene of a recent motor vehicle accident. He asked Chief Maniago to address President Trump's recent comments, as reported in the news media. Chief Maniago said his command staff runs a professional department and in no way will any extra, unnecessary, unreasonable inordinate force be used and if it is, and is not justified, it will be dealt with appropriately and quickly.

Commissioner Battle congratulated the three officers who received a medal and expressed her pride in the Police, Fire, Ambulance and Volunteer Departments saying they do a wonderful job and we appreciate it.

Mayor Carbone reported on a grant opportunity that she acted upon, identifying the urgent need of an opioid epidemic, viewed through the lens of the number of sober homes located in the City.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:16 p.m.

ATTEST: JOSEPH L. QUARTIERO, CMC
CITY CLERK