

BOLTON FIRE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021
BOLTON FIRE HOUSE – 7:00 P.M.
AND VIA ZOOM

Fire Commission member John Morianos convened the Bolton Fire Commission meeting at 7:20 P.M. at the Bolton Fire House and via Zoom. The meeting started late as there was a call for a one car accident with no injuries.

Commission members present were John Roback, Chris Moquin and Robert Langton. Cheryl Udin attended via Zoom call. Fire Chief Bruce Dixon was also in attendance. Fire Marshal James Rupert and Deputy Fire Marshal Bill Call were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Motion to approve minutes from April 26, 2021 with one correction: Under Communications from the Chief, first paragraph, Interstate 388 should read Interstate 384. (JR/CM) V.U.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – April bills were circulated.

CORRESPONDENCE – Letter from John Roback informing the Fire Commission “I have decided to not renew my term on the Fire Commission when it expires in July 2021. It has been a pleasure to serve on the Commission the last five years. I learned many things about town government. All the members are great people, and it has been an honor to be associated with all of you.”

Cheryl Udin’s term is also expiring in July 2021. She informed the Board that she would stay on for a short time after if needed until the Board appoints two new members.

Chief Dixon mentioned that he has contacted an individual and was hoping they could attend tonight’s meeting. However that did not occur.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHIEF

- The Bolton Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) responded to 21 emergencies over the last month, which included three motor vehicle accidents, one cardiac arrest, two hazardous material calls, a mutual aid request for Tanker 234 to Interstate 84 in Vernon for a tractor trailer accident with fire, and multiple medical calls.
- The BVFD did several transfers in the budget this month to purchase some items that were identified in the budget process and discussed with the Officers. To their credit, John Morianos, the Fire Commission Chairman and John Roback, the Treasurer, have been involved with all of the major events and significant purchases this year.

- ET334, our 28 year old front line fire truck, had an unexpected engine failure this month. Chief Dixon, the Fire Commissioner Chairman John Morianos, the town administrator, and the selectmen have met several times to discuss several options. Chief Dixon has met with the servicing dealer and they have decided to install a remanufactured engine into this truck at this time.
- A new box trailer has been approved by the Board of Selectmen and is on order.
- Service 334 was delivered last week and has been taken down to J & S Radio in Willimantic to begin installation of many components. We are waiting for the administration to free up the additional monies in this Capital Project so that the other items that are needed to operate this vehicle can be purchased. This action is saving the town additional money, as has been discussed with the Fire Commission and Jim Rupert.
- The new Engine Tank fire truck committee is very close to finalizing the specifications for this new apparatus that is scheduled to be purchased in 2021-2022. Your current Engine Tank was purchased back in 1993.
- The BVFD held their annual awards banquet recently. Chief's Awards, a President's Award, and several years of service awards were handed out, that included Charles Rexroad and Mayland Clark receiving plaques for 15 years of dedicated service to the town. Amanda Gallacher received the Firefighter of the Year Award for 2019-2020, and Nickolas Cycenas received the Firefighter of the Year Award for 2020-2021. Lt. Mayland Clark received the Fire Officer of the Year for 2020-2021.
- The BVFD held their Annual Meeting on May 3, 2021. Elections were held and the following members were elected into the noted positions: Fire Chief - Bruce Dixon, Deputy Fire Chief - Michael Eremita, President - Joseph White, Vice President - Neil Roback, Secretary - Samara Bowne and Treasurer - James Aldrich.
- The Firefighter Memorial Garden is under construction in front of the firehouse at this time thanks to donations the BVFD received. This will include a walkway, center island with memorial bricks surrounding a statue and a water feature amongst plantings and a special memorial tree. This garden will be visible at night with some back lighting. A dedication ceremony will be announced in the near future.

John Morianos commented how much work Chief Dixon put in ET334 by gathering information, researching and conducting meetings. He has kept Chairman Morianos apprised of information every step of the way and did an excellent job. Chief Dixon said how much he appreciated that comment.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Activities during the last month included:

- Deputy Fire Marshal Bill Call is out of service for a period of time following hip replacement surgery. Report is that surgery went well and he is recovering well.
- During Deputy Fire Marshall Bill Call's absence Fire Marshal Michael Lester and Deputy Fire Marshal Steven Postemsky from Columbia have agreed to provide mutual aid for fires as needed.
- Inspections continue to go well. We do have two resistant locations that we are working on to gain access but otherwise are 100% compliant on all known locations.
- I have not responded to any fire emergencies since the last report.
- Deputy Fire Marshall Bill Call has passed required tests and we have submitted all paperwork to CT DEEP for Burning Official. He has completed several inspections and issued some permits.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – None

Next meeting scheduled for June 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourned at 8:22 (CU/RL) V.U.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet K. Assard

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PLEASE SEE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETING FOR APPROVAL/CORRECTIONS TO THESE MINUTES.