

**The Board of Fire Commissioners  
Portsmouth Fire Department**

Station 1  
January 20, 2004

Portsmouth, NH  
1900 hours

**I. Call to Order:**

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order at 1902 hours with Chief LeClaire leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Along with Chairman Hughes and Chief LeClaire, present were Commissioners Gamester and Wentworth; Assistant Chief Achilles; Deputy Chief Griswold; Captain Collins; Firefighters: Gionet and Gordon.

**II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Motion to accept the minutes of December 17, 2003 made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

**III. Reports:**

A. Fire Chief's Reports:

Motion made to accept Chief's Reports 04-002 through 04-006 by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimous.

B. Other: None.

**IV. Old Business:**

Copy of FY 2005 Budget Schedule, Draft 4, given to Commissioners.

**V. Presentations of Written Communications:** None.

**VI. New Business:**

Motion to approve and accept 2004 Emergency medical Service Rates made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

After brief discussion on the working agreements of the Portsmouth Professional Fire Officers Association (PPFOA) and International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 1313, motion to approve and send forward to the City Council, the working agreements of the PPFOA and IAFF Local 1313 made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Chairman Hughes, unanimous.

*Minutes from January 20, 2004 continued:*

Motion to table the election of Fire Commission officers to February's Fire Commission meeting made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Chairman Hughes, unanimous.

A brief discussion regarding stickers on city vehicles, led by Chairman Hughes, based on a conversation he had with Mr. Braciano of the Taxpayers Association.

Commissioner Gamester made the motion to keep present configuration of all equipment including insignia, decals and other appropriate matter, to be left in tact as is. This is to include department uniforms and any other matter that decals or insignia may adhere to. Motion seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

Chief LeClaire discussed the Capitol Plan, which has gone forward. City Manger Bohenko proposed the Fire Department purchase one (1) new fire apparatus in FY05 and a new piece each year thereafter until caught up. It is expected that the department will have approximately \$635K in FY05 Capitol to purchase the new apparatus. Chief LeClaire believes the department will be able to purchase a new ladder truck with this money and possibly upgrade the Forestry Unit as well. Because the department's fire apparatus needs to be custom ordered to fit our stations, hope to have the bid process begin as soon as City Council adopts the Capitol Improvement Plan. City Manager's proposal accepted.

**VII. Recognition of Groups of Individuals:**

Commissioner Gamester recognized the department in their professionalism at Ff. Francois funeral. Firefighters in dress uniform and the manner in which they conducted themselves was very impressive.

**VIII. Public Hearings:** None.

**IX. Non-public Session:**

Motion to enter into non-public session made by Chairman Hughes at 1927 hours, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

Motion to come out of non-public session, with no votes taken, made by Commissioner Gamester at 1950 hours, seconded by Chairman Hughes, unanimous.

*Minutes from January 20, 2004 continued:*

**X. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 1951 hours made by Chairman Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

---

Richard Gamester, Clerk