

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

Station 1  
May 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.

Absent: Assistant Chief Achilles and Deputy Chief Griswold.

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

Motion to accept the minutes of April 20, 2004 made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

**III. Reports:**

A. Fire Chief's Reports:

Motion made to accept Chief's Reports 04-028 through 04-032 by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimous.

B. Officers Reports: None.

C. Other (to included internal dept. written communications): None.

**IV. Old Business:**

Chief LeClaire spoke about the FY04 Budget. Looks ok. Will continue with reduced staffing through June. Public Hearing on City Manger's Proposed FY05 Budget was held on May 17, 2004 with 8 speakers. It appears that the Statewide Property Tax could be reinstated which would put Portsmouth back into "donor" status. Could mean budget cuts if it passes. Since it's under review, City Council opted to postpone work session for final budget review, scheduled for tonight, until June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Commission stands behind the department's budget, which supports the City Manager's recommendation and was submitted to City Council on May 4, 2004.

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

*Minutes from May 20, 2004 Continued:*

**VI. New Business:**

Chief LeClaire brought the Commission up to date on happenings in the department: July 1, 2004 new ladder truck goes out to bid. Receiving prices on a new Forestry Unit. Federal Grant providing new radios in all vehicles, digital, 38-channel capability, Ambulances with 256-channel capability, statewide. Court Street improvements underway.

**VII. Recognition of Groups of Individuals:** None.

**VIII. Public Hearings:** None.

**IX. Non-public Session:** None.

**X. Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 1955 hours made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

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Richard Gamester, Clerk