

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

Station 1  
March 27, 2008

Portsmouth, NH  
1900 hours

**I. Call to Order:**

Chairman Paul Wentworth called the meeting to order at 1900 hours and led Pledge of Allegiance. Along with Chairman Wentworth; present were Commissioners: Richard Gamester and Michael Hughes; Chief Christopher LeClaire; Assistant Chief Steven Achilles; Deputy Chief Steven Griswold; Captain Tim Collins; Firefighters: Rick Condon, Scott Egan and Scott D. Young.

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

Motion, to accept the minutes of February 26, 2008, made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, unanimous.

**III. Recognition of Groups or Individuals:**

Assistant Chief Achilles introduced new firefighter, Scott Young.

**IV. Reports:**

A. Fire Chief's Reports:

Chief LeClaire led brief discussion on FY08 Budget. Two reasons for shortfall is the large health insurance increase and reduction in night shift coverage not producing savings as originally thought. Motion, to accept Chief's Reports 08-016 through 08-020, made by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimous.

B. Other (to include internal dept. written communications): None.

**V. Old Business:**

Chief LeClaire updated Commissioners on Tower 5 and continued training. It also needed some minor adjustments which are being made at shop.

*Minutes of March 27, 2008 Continued:*

**VI. Presentations of Written Communications:**

Letters from Local 4039 and Local 1313 were submitted identifying new officers.

**VII. New Business:**

Chief LeClaire updated Commissioners on FY09 Budget schedule with presentations to the public on April 16<sup>th</sup> and City Council work session April 17<sup>th</sup>. Chief noted successful purchase of 3000 Lafayette Road for the new fire station with site crews and hazmat assessments in the works. Contractor will be removing old building and architect is reworking site plan. Once reworked, the new plans will be reviewed with the Station 2 Building Committee. Plans are being made to begin construction as early as next month.

Station 3 continues to move forward.

Statue for Station 1 has been put on hold. Sculptor is having casting done overseas to save money and the process takes time. Expect to begin construction of next year.

Station 1 improvements: apparatus bay doors will be widened and increased in height to accommodate department's larger apparatus. Doors have been approved by Historical Commission and will replicate those of 1918. They will be custom made with a cost of approximately \$30K a piece. Chief noted that the City Manager sets aside \$1M each year for capital improvements to city buildings.

**VIII. Public Hearings:** None.

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

**X. Adjournment:**

Motion, to adjourn at 1935 hours made by Chairman Wentworth, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, unanimous.

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Michael Hughes, Clerk