

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

Central Fire Station
May 22, 2012

Portsmouth, NH
1900 hours

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Richard Gamester called the meeting to order at 1900 hours and led Pledge of Allegiance. Along with Chairman Gamester, present were: Commissioners Michael Hughes and Paul Wentworth; Chief Christopher LeClaire; Assistant Chief Steven Achilles; Deputy Chief Carl Roediger; Captain Ken Smith; Firefighters: Rick Condon, Chad Putney and Paul McKendry.

II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Motion, to approve the minutes of March 28, 2012, made by Chairman Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Hughes unanimous.

III. Public Comment Session: None.

IV. Recognition of Groups or Individuals:

Chief LeClaire swore in Deputy Fire Chief Carl Roediger.

Chief LeClaire recognized Firefighter Chenoweth who submitted his letter of resignation effective June 6, 2012.

Motion, to accept Firefighter Chenoweth's resignation, made by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Chairman Gamester, unanimous.

Chief LeClaire recognized three new firefighters hired May 7, 2012: Tyler Cunningham, Steven Morse and Josh Danley. Anticipate another starting on or about June 4, 2012.

V. Reports:

A. Fire Chief's Reports:

After brief discussion on report 12-029, Expenditure Status Report, motion, to approve Chief's Reports 12-026 through 12-030, was made by Commissioner Wentworth seconded by Chairman Gamester, unanimous.

Minutes of May 22, 2012 Continued:

B. Staff Reports:

Asst. Chief Achilles provided an update on operations of the department and the hiring process for three more firefighters to bring shifts to fourteen.

State offering grant funded training where overtime and backfill is being reimbursed to the department for members who are taking advantage of the many training exercises being offered. New suburban is going to 2-Way for radios and lighting next week. Fire at Beechstone this past weekend as a result of minor playing with matches was limited to garage.

Inspector Roediger provided an update on the various building projects within the City. Service Credit Union expected to open in the next couple of weeks. Many companies moving from Commerce Way. New Federal Building at Pease. Portsmouth Chevy to open by end of June. New restaurant going in over the summer on the corner of Wright Ave replacing the old Exxon station.

VI. Old Business:

Chief LeClaire reported on the FY12 budget and has instituted staffing changes to offset deficit. More measures will be taken if need be.

VII. Presentations of Written Communications:

Motion, to accept thank you note and \$75.00 donation from Ms. MacNeil made by Chairman Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

Motion, to accept and place on file, thank you note from Mr. & Mrs. Heath, made by Chairman Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, unanimous.

VIII. New Business:

Chief LeClaire reported on the FY13 Budget which passed last night as presented. It is a full budget with all position funded. Will hire additional firefighters to offset long term vacancies to alleviate some of the overtime. FY13 Capital Improvement also passed with a new ambulance. Heavy rescue was pushed out another year. \$100K for SCBA replacement approved in plan as well.

IX. Public Hearings: None.

X. Non-public Session: None.

Minutes of May 22, 2012 Continued:

XI. Adjournment:

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

Paul Wentworth, Clerk