

HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, June 24, 2021
Meeting Place:	95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601 and Zoom Meeting and Dial-in Number: 781-368-1701

A quorum being duly present, Commissioner Cronin called the June 24, 2021 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

PRESENT: Commissioners Laura Cronin, Dennis Sullivan, Demetrius Atsalis, Peter Cross, and Victor Skende

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Peter Burke, Deputy Chief Eric Kristofferson, FF Mike Dalmau, Capt. Brian Lawrence, Regional Vice President at Dowling & O'Neil Insurance Agency Mark McCartin, and Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy

I. OPEN SESSION:

1. MINUTES:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 Regular Meeting

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Commissioner Sullivan: Aye

Commissioner Cronin: Aye

Commissioner Skende: Aye

Commissioner Cross: Aye

Commissioner Atsalis: Absent

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

4. STREET LIGHTS:

- None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Cronin stated Mark McCartin, who will be review the HFD insurance policies and rates, would be joining later and that Capt. Lawrence would be presenting first

6b. Capt. Lawrence – Training Presentation

- This training at the Hyannis fire house was made possible by the Barnstable County Fire Academy which is transitioning to mobile training simulators which are then deployed at the local fire stations

- HFD was able to be one of the first handful of Cape Cod departments to use the Mobile Maritime Fire Training Unit ("Unit") – which simulates both maritime and residential fires

- The goal of the HFD Training Division is to give the best possible training regardless of rank so that each individual will operate at their maximum performance level

- We accomplish this goal by creating the most realistic training possible while ensuring personal safety

- Along with the Unit, we also were given Barnstable County instructors who oversaw the safety and running of the trailer while the local team, such as myself, created the scenarios and made sure the scenarios were implemented correctly

Capt. Lawrence – Training Presentation continued

- The trailer is 53 feet long and is similar to a tractor trailer; it is self-contained trailer however it did need an auxiliary power supply which we were able to provide; the propane tanks ran completely clean, there is no wood or straw used and the propane tanks are stored at the back of the trailer; the instructors were able to configure the doors, walls and rooms inside the trailer and also the Unit had portholes and maritime doors if needed; water used inside the Unit was from the HFD's fire yard hydrant which was pumped into the new engine so that the crews could get acquainted with the new engine and then the water is pumped into the Unit; the smoke is theatrical smoke used with a smoke machine
- The training was built to evolve into progressively harder scenarios as the day went on; the last evolution of each day was the most strenuous, most difficult and most labor intensive scenario
- Chief Burke also took part in the training along with the crews
- The Unit is an extremely versatile piece of equipment and I was very pleased with the amount of time we could use this Unit; most of the training was done while on duty in the HFD parking lot
- One of the instructors from the county is in a control room while training is going on and monitoring all the activity in the Unit to ensure the FFs safety; there is also another county instructor manning a dead man's switch to ensure an added level of safety
- The burn room gets up to 350 degrees; you can simulate a kitchen fire that spreads to the ceiling among other type scenarios
- Commissioner Cronin asked if the entire department went through the training; Capt. Lawrence said yes, he had scheduled it so all 4 shifts could take part in the training and the shifts were brought up to 13 FFs on those days and whoever was on duty for those 4 training days was able to take part in the training
- Commissioner Sullivan asked if the training was well-received; Capt Lawrence said he thought it was well-received by the FFs and he had gotten positive feedback from them
- Commissioner Cronin asked if any foam was used; Capt. Lawrence said absolutely no foam was used during the training; Capt. Lawrence stated the fire was actually a propane fire and when the FFs hit the flame with water the county trainer turned off the burn and if our FFs turned their back on the fire after it had been extinguished, backing out of the room, the county instructor turned back on the fire to simulate a true fire situation
- Commissioner Sullivan asked if the FFs were able to use thermal imaging; Capt. Lawrence said no he did not allow the FFs to use thermal imaging or radios as he wanted to help promote the basics of fire fighting and good communication between the FFs

6a. Mark McCartin – review of insurance policies and rates

- The overall increase of the HFD's insurance policy rates is very reasonable compared to the market place presently
- We are with VFIS Property and Casualty Insurance; National Union Fire for the Accident and Injured on Duty coverage; ASUM for pollution coverage, and we have Workers Comp with GUARD; the area with the most growth is the area of Injured on Duty coverage because the amount of calls you are taking
- You paid \$178,019 for 2021 coverage and we are at \$185,750 for 2022 renewal; auto came down slightly, the package policy was up slightly, Workers Comp was the same, Pollution was up slightly, and the Injury on Duty was up roughly to almost \$8000
- Injury on Duty policy is the following: Loss of Life coverage for \$150,000, cancer loss of life pays up to \$10,000, vision impairment pays up to \$150,000, cosmetic disfigurement pays up to \$150,000, HIV+ lump sum principle is \$150,000; \$500,000 for medical expenses
- This district buys the medical coverage for an injury on duty to offset any medical claims; presently if you wanted to move to \$1 million limit the additional cost would 15% to 20% add on the policy; what you need to look at is what your exposure is and what you have coverage for at this time; it is about what the district wants to offset with exposure as the FF will be taken care either directly by HFD or by the insurance coverage
- Commissioner Cross said he was still pondering the idea of possibly bumping up the Injury on Duty coverage to \$750,000 or even to \$1 million as \$500,000 does not take care of a lot in the medical industry anymore
- Chief Burke said the first year he was with the HFD, the Injury on Duty policy was upped to the present \$500,000; Chief Burke added that the theory was if the HFD maintained the Free Cash balance and also moving to the \$500,000 Injury at Work coverage, than that would be able to handle the most if not all of the substantial items – but that was 3 years ago
- Commissioner Cronin asked for a quote on the Injury on Duty coverage quote on both \$750,000 and on \$1 million limits

6a. Mark McCartin – review of insurance policies and rates continued:

- There is a new law in Massachusetts that deals with cancer linked to the past job exposure as a FF
- Dowling & O'Neil Insurance Agency HFD team is:
 - o Roy McNamee – former Fire Chief Town of Marshfield - handles HFD claims
 - o Jonathan Finn - Senior Account Executive at Gowrie Group
- Pollution policy - \$1 million policy each accident with a \$2 million policy aggregate; Worker's Compensation \$1 million across all 3 lines each accident per employee, NOC Operations coverage and Experience Mode of 9.5 which is the lowest it can go
- VFIS proposal – building limit is \$18,603,520
- Chief Burke said last year they figured out the fit and furnishings cost
- Mark McCartin stated that the building is guarantee replacement costs so if the cost to rebuild goes over the \$18 million, the insurance company will cover it
- Crime coverage: \$10,000 for public employee dishonest, \$90,000 specific to the Treasurer, Portable Equipment (anything that is extra that has been installed after purchasing the vehicles for the specific needs of that vehicle, i.e. ambulances), all watercraft insured; vehicles insured; General Liability, Management Liability, Cyber Liability and Extortion Expense; Rental Reimbursement – umbrella policy extends the Auto Liability, the General Liability the Management Liability, Not the Cyber liability nor the Pollution liability – this is a nice safety net in case some sort of catastrophe should occur
- No decisions have to be made tonight on the Cyber nor the Medical Expense limit and we can endorse those changes after the July 1st date
- We will need the last page signed by Treasurer LaFleur by the policy renewal due date
- Commissioner Cronin asked Commissioner Sullivan to follow up with Treasurer LaFleur to make sure she has what she needs to sign off by the policy renewal date
- Commissioner Cronin also asked Chief Burke to review the vehicles listed to ensure all are covered and correctly listed in the policy renewal paperwork

II. POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion fully made and seconded it was voted to move to Executive session

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Sullivan: Aye
- Commissioner Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye

A quorum being duly present, Commissioner Cronin called the June 24, 2021 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting back to order at 8:20 PM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to accept the memorandum of understanding reflecting the terms of the successor collective bargaining agreement

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Commissioner Sullivan: Aye
- Commissioner Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

7. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR

- None

8. CHIEF'S REPORT

- None

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

- FF Mike Dalmau thanked both Commissioner Cross and Sullivan and the other commissioners for the timely manner in which negotiations were handled for the membership and the district- the process does not always have good days but we ended in a good place and a lot of it has to do with the fact that we work well together

Vote on Adjournment of public session:

Upon a motion fully made and seconded it was voted to Adjourn the public session

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Sullivan: Aye
Commissioner Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye

Adjourned at 8:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy, Hyannis Fire District