

BOLTON FIRE COMMISSION
APRIL 23, 2012

Chairwoman Cheryl Udin convened the Bolton Fire Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the firehouse. Commission members present were John Morianos, Derek Green, Christopher Moquin and Richard Metcalf.

Also present was Chief James R. Preuss and Fire Marshal Raymond Walker and the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department Officers: Deputy Chief N. James Preuss, Assistant Chief Bruce Dixon, Department President and Captain Donald Assard, Captain Chuck Rexroad, Lieutenant Greg Minichiello, Lieutenant Peter Morra, Lieutenant Dale Bonn, Lieutenant Paul Philopena, Lieutenant Dan Deluca, Lieutenant Joseph White, Lieutenant Kevin Prior and Chief Engineer Tom Galeota.

PUBLIC COMMENT – the officers expressed their support for the chief and the fire commission with regard to the verbiage of a job description.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve the March 26, 2012 draft minutes (CM/JM) V.U.

PAYMENT OF BILL – The bills that were paid in April were circulated and discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Letter from Donald W. Assard, President of the Bolton Fire Department informing the Fire Commission that at its meeting on Monday, April 2, 2012, the members of the Bolton Fire Department nominated James R. Preuss as Fire Chief and N. James Preuss as Deputy Fire Chief. A recommendation was made later in the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHIEF

- ET 234 – Members of the Fire Department assisted in a 100 acre brush fire in Brimfield, MA. The duration of the call was from 5:00 p.m. until midnight. Many towns for Connecticut assisted with mutual aid. The Tolland County Tanker Task Force was called to this incident and Bolton is part of this plan. Also First Selectman Robert Morra was notified by the chief Preuss that the Tanker and personnel were out of state for the call.
- Thermal Imaging Cameras – Two cameras have been ordered and received. Dale Bonn read the manual and did a presentation to the Fire Department members.
- Easter Plant Sale – Was conducted on the weekend before Easter in the bay at the fire house. The event was a huge success with all of the plants being sold. Mayland Clark was the chairman for the event and did an excellent job.
- Breakfast With The Easter Bunny - The Women's Auxiliary held the annual "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny" on the Saturday April 7, 2012 at the firehouse.

- Fiberoptics – Is in the process of being installed in the firehouse. The trench has been dug and the conduit is in. The components will be installed in the storage room. This will enable fire departments to talk to each other in the event of an emergency. Eventually the phone lines will be installed. This will give the fire department faster more reliable Internet and eventually telephone can be hooked into the fiber.
- Physicals - Most have been completed with only a few outstanding.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Monthly Significant Activity Included:

- The Fire Marshal attended, with Jim Rupert, Joe Masselli and Mary Grande, a two day State of Connecticut workshop on emergency planning for schools.
- Bolton Fire Department member Brian Davies worked with the Fire Marshal's Office to complete a building pre-fire survey as part of his course requirements at UNH.
- Continued discussions at Simonize regarding fire protection and with Building Official Jim Rupert load tested the backup generator at this facility.
- Based upon prior Bolton Fire Department responses the status/type of occupancy at 54 Watrous Road is being reviewed.
- Reviewed plans/permit for renovation at 263 Boston Turnpike (former Liberty Candle).
- Assisted the Fire Department at CO call at 50 Tinker Pond Road.

Current Activity:

- The Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, and Lt. Bonn continue research on water supplies for firefighting.

Upcoming Activity:

- The Fire Marshal will be attending the IFMA Board of Directors and the CFSI meetings in Washington, DC later this week. The program is entitled "*Protecting the integrity of the code process for the fire service and seeking assistance to local Fire Departments are major topics*".
- Deputy Fire Marshal Volkert has applied for a pilot course at the National Fire Academy for June.

- Fire Marshal Walker will be attending the NFPA June Conference on an NFPA Public Educator Scholarship.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – Clarification of Fire Chief Job Description.

The Bolton Fire Commission currently oversees the provision of emergency services as shall be necessary services in the Town of Bolton. This is as per Chapter 7 Section 7.4 (B) of the Bolton Town Charter.

The Fire Commission is required by the Charter to enter into an agreement with the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department and such agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

The position of Fire Chief shall be nominated and elected by the member of the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department and approved by the Bolton Fire Commission by a majority vote of the entire commission.

We believe this process has served the Town of Bolton well and when combined with the information provided during the FY2012-2013 budget submittal it assures the community of quality leadership of the fire service.

APPROVAL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF AND ASSISTANT CHIEF – A motion to accept the nominations as presented - James R. Preuss as Fire Chief and N. James Preuss as Deputy Fire Chief for the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department (RM/DG) VU.

ADJOURNMENT – At 9:00 P.M. (JM/DG) V.U.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet K. Assard

PLEASE SEE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETING FOR APPROVAL/CORRECTIONS TO THESE MINUTES.