

**BOLTON FIRE COMMISSION
MONDAY, JULY 25, 2016
MINUTES**

Chairwoman Cheryl Udin convened the Bolton Fire Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the firehouse. Commission members present were John Roback, Robert Langton, John Morianos and Chris Moquin. Also present was Chief Bruce Dixon and Fire Marshal Raymond Walker.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve the June 27, 2016 minutes. (JR/RL) VU.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – Bills that were paid in June were circulated and discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Memo dated July 13, 2016 from Elizabeth Waters, Town Clerk regarding the Election of Officers.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHIEF -

- There were 50 emergency Calls since the last meeting in June that included calls like fire alarms, service calls, MVA, ATV accident and mutual aid.
- The 2015-2016 budget year was closed out with the assistance of Cheryl Udin, John Roback and the fire officer's input. End of the year purchases centered on accountability, communications and personal safety equipment.
- There have been numerous communications on the new Tanker 234 with the US Tanker engineers, Kenworth staff, Joyce Stille and the fire department truck committee. A change order is due this week to be signed by the town.
- Chief Dixon reviewed the Lake Street state road construction with an engineer from CT DOT and our town staff. He requested that Captain White visit the roadways with Truck 134 to ensure safe passage of these roads and intersections at the conclusion of the construction. He then forwarded a letter to Joyce and the Selectmen with our findings and recommendations.
- Chief Dixon has reviewed the Simoniz fire alarm system with Fire Marshal Walker. A meeting is planned at Simoniz for August 1, 2016 at 2:00 P.M.
- Chief Dixon and the Deputy Chief along with municipal reps Walker and N. Preuss attended the Tolland County Chief's meeting in Columbia last week.
- As part of the 75th Anniversary events, the fire department will have a display and some hand out materials and ice cream available at the Concert on the Green this Wednesday at 6:30 PM.
- Chief Dixon toured Whelen Engineering's manufacturing plant last Wednesday to get some additional education on new products for future projects.
- The department had an EMR/EMT recertification in house the first week of July. There were six members of the department that participated in this class and all passed the practical and written exams. These certifications are good for three years.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Current Activities:

- Regular inspections and plan reviews continued; including 201 Boston Turnpike final inspections for CO, 921 Boston Turnpike compliance follow up, 29 Castle Rock Road blasting, 275 Boston Turnpike site plan changes, 2 School House Road replacement trailer office and electrical upgrades, and on Steeles Crossing Road a review of a home occupation zoning application for a small home brewery.
- Fire Marshal Walker attended the NFPA's 4th Needs Assessment Survey meeting in Quincy, MA and participated in a Quarterly Conference call with the USFA.
- Fire Marshal Walker continued working with Ray Boyd regarding Bolton School's summer projects.
- The Fire Marshal's Office provided public education supplies to Lt. Malin Clark and the Bolton Fire Department for a visit to the Town's summer camp at Herrick Park.
- Fire Marshal Walker and past Chief Jim Preuss Sr. as municipal representatives, attended the bimonthly TN meeting held at the Columbia Fire Department.
- Also submitted below, as an FYI, is a copy of Fire Marshal Walker's bio submitted to the 75th Anniversary Calendar Committee.

FMO / Walker BIO for 75th Anniversary Calendar

Fire Marshal Ray Walker has served the community for more than a decade as a firefighter, Deputy Fire Marshal, and now as Bolton's third Fire Marshal. Bolton's first Fire Marshal was Peter Massolini appointed in 1951. Peter provided service during the formative years of the State Fire Marshal's Office and a number of US Supreme Court decisions that ultimately shaped the modern inspection and investigation procedures used by all fire marshals. He was succeeded by Richard Metcalf who carried the Town into the 21st century and thru numerous statewide fire and life safety code changes.

Fire Marshal Walker continues these traditions of service building upon the work of his predecessors and using his experience and education in not only the fire service but also in hazardous materials, public education, and the law. Ray is not only active in local government but is also the President of the International Fire Marshals Association a 110 year old section for members of the National Fire Protection Association.

Upcoming Activities:

- During the remaining summer months regular inspections will continue with additional emphasis on school code compliance and continuing preparation for fall fire prevention programs (including school and day care visits) and the Lutz Family Day
- In August and September Fire Marshal Walker will be presenting 2 programs on the Research Foundation's tall wood buildings project to CT Building Officials at their regional meetings.
- In mid-September Fire Marshal Walker will be attending the IFMA Fall meeting in Michigan and the Michigan Fire Insp Conference held at the same location and in late September will be attending the New England Fire Marshal Meeting in Rhode Island.

- In order to improve the level of service of the Fire Marshal's Office the following will be investigated and implemented as determined to be practical and achievable:
- Provide on the Bolton Fire Department and Town web site direct phone and email links to the Fire Marshal's Office; phone calls would go to the Town Hall Land Use Office and emails would go to FM Walker's email address.
- Provide on the web sites cited above additional links to related agencies i.e. the State, NFPA, etc. and information sites and periodic public education and fire safety information.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – ELECTION OF OFFICERS - After a discussion a *motion* was made to appoint the following officers to the Bolton Fire Commission: Chairperson – Cheryl Udin, Vice Chairman – none, Secretary – Robert Langton and Treasurer – John Roback. Secretary Robert Langton cast the ballot. (CU/CM) VU.

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. (JM/CM) VU.

No meeting in August

Next meeting – Monday September 26, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet K. Assard
Board Clerk

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