

## MINUTES OF THE 904<sup>th</sup> CORPORATION MEETING October 7, 2024

President Gina Kline called the meeting to order at 19:01

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Present 49

### **New Members to the Department:**

- Mikhail Baioni – New Explorer Member
- Richard Nardone – Resigned
- Martial Kepler – New Member Fire Police

The minutes from the September 9, 2024, were approved by a motion from Sue Jansen and seconded by Mike Transue.

**Member Comments:** None

### **Presidents Report: Gina Kline**

- The Communications and Outreach Steering Committee will meet on October 22, 2024, at Company 1.
- Looking for someone to take over social media for the department.
- The department's CPA filed corporation 990.
- The CT. State Fallen Firefighters' Honors Dinner will be held on November 7, 2024. The corporation has purchased a table which is 10 tickets. If you are interested in attending, please let Grace Bianchi know.
- Annual Points checks will be given at the November Corporation meeting along with paperwork that shows the breakdown of those points.
- The following are the dates of the board meetings for the rest of the year:
  - October 24 due to Halloween being on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October.
  - November 21 due to Thanksgiving is on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November
  - December 19 will not be a regular board meeting, but a joint workshop with the board and officers to set new goals for 2025. This workshop will start at 6:00 pm.
- The 501c3 conversion has been put on hold. President Kline did talk to a member of the Shelton Fire Department about how they did their conversion from a 501c4 to 501c3. There are a lot of steps that have to be followed to do this conversion. President Kline, Chief Appell and Mark Wilson will contact the Shelton department to see what steps are needed. President Kline did find out that our By-Laws, AOGs and SOGs have to be looked at very closely for any discrepancies. We would also need to have an accountant and lawyer advise us on how to proceed.
- The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday November 22, 2024, at the Farmington Polo Club.

**Correspondence:** There were thank you notes read.

### **Financial Report: Kristen Shaw**

- The department received the check from the town and has been deposited into accounts at Northwest Community Bank. The department is currently in the process of moving all the accounts over to Northwest Community Bank from Liberty Bank.
- We received notice that Eversource will be contributing \$1,000 to the department from the Neighborhood Assistance Program application we submitted for energy sufficient appliances at Company 2.
- Kristen went over the top expenses for the month of August.

### **Town Representative Report – Jim Speich**

- The building committee will be meeting on October 17, 2024, at Company 1 to look over the cost estimate of the renovations to Company 1 and 4 and the new Company 3 firehouse. This committee will also be looking at areas where we might cut costs.

### **AV-1 Report given by Assistant Chief Joe Speich**

- Retired Member Access
  - Chief Appell took what the town recreation department uses if the public wants to use a town building and adapted it to the department for retired members to fill out to be able to get into a fire station along with a Hold Harmless Agreement. The board advised the chief to have the town lawyer look it over before anything is decided.
  - The duty crew program is well underway. There is coverage most Friday nights and Saturdays during the day. This program has seen a significant decrease in response times. At the end of October, the chiefs will evaluate the program to see what works and what changes need to be made.
- Company 3, a new generator, will be funded by the town. Chief Appell is working on the specs for the new generator at Company 2

### **AV-3 Joe Speich**

- The CIP budget was presented to the board for their approval and was submitted to the town. The total amount submitted was \$680,000. The breakdown is as follows:
  - AVFD Building Project Fees \$250,000
  - Replacement of Tanker 20 \$400,000
  - Pant Engine 11 \$30,000
- Ladder 12 is still out of service. Rosenbauer did recertify the ladder truck for another year.
- Sale of Truck 15 and Truck 18 – Joe Speich
  - Assistant Chief Speich explained to the membership that there is \$85,000 for a new chassis for truck 15 in the 24/25 CIP budget but it was decided to purchase a new chassis and sell Truck 15 and 18 to a company and purchase a new body for the new chassis. The board approved the sale of both of these trucks.

### **AV-5 Joe Speich for Deputy Chief Aaron Gelber**

- If any member is interested in attending FDIC please talk to DC Gelber.
- September 26 will be live burn training
- Next week will be thermal imaging training.
- There will be an update on the PPQ.

### **AV-2 Tom Kline**

- If you responded to the bike accident this past Friday and feel that you need to process, please talk to someone, or use the department's EAP.
- Dispatch Issues:
  - The police department is short dispatchers so the overnight shift from 12 am to 7 am will be dispatched by Farmington PD on a trial basis until more police dispatchers are hired. This will not be right away because a dispatch console has to be installed at Farmington PD. This console may stay there as a backup unit.
- The radio project is moving along. Two sights are up and running. They did evaluate to make sure the signal was clear and they received satisfactory results

**Old Business:**

- Member in Good Standing:
  - President Kline tried to explain how this will work. This year there will be no changes since we didn't have the ability to run reports to show if a member was in good standing. Now there is the ability to run those reports. So, starting July 2024 officers will run these reports and if a member needs to be brought up to date with his training or calls the officer will talk to them to work something out. There were quite a few comments and questions and President Kline did say that the board will be collaborating with each company officers to look into what needs to be looked at.
- Board Vacancies:
  - There are 3 open board seats. October 9, 2024, is the last day to put in your letter of intent or resume. There are certain criteria but try anyway to see if you could be a suitable candidate.

**New Business:**

- 25/26 Capital Improvement Plan has been submitted to the Town.
- Retired Member Access to fire stations – President Kline told the members that Chief Appell worked on this and the board asked him to have the form he did looked over by the town attorney.
- Sale of Trucks 15 and 18- the board approved this sale. Truck 16 will be converted to a pickup and will be used for training.

**Other Business:**

- Welfare and Cheer – Dennis Bianchi has nothing to report.
- Fire Prevention Day at Roaring Brook and Pine Grove Schools. Meet at 7:30 am at Company 3. Lunch will be at Company 1 and then back to the schools for the afternoon.
- Community Outreach: Dennis Bianchi
  - The department did two events at Car Hardware 9/21/24 and 10/5/2024
  - West Congregational Church on 9/21/2024
  - Truck and Treat – October 26 at Sycamore Hills from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. If you can help out, please let Dennis know.
  - Italian Festival.
- POT o' Gold – Mike Hornish
- Attendance Peter Delap
- Attendance: Sharon Levine-Shein
- Pot O' Gold: Carol Baldwin

**Future Meeting Schedule:**

The following meetings will be held in the main meeting hall at Co. 1 unless specified.

Town Council Regular Meeting – October 10, 2024 /@ 7 pm

Finance Steering committee – October 14, 2024 @ 7 pm in the Board Room

Building Committee Meeting – October 17 @ 7 pm (Moved from 10/8/2024)

Communications Steering Committee – October 22, 2024 @7 pm (moved from 10/8/24)

Board of Directors ('regular) meeting – October 24, 2024 (MOVED FROM 10/31/2024)

Corporation Annual Meeting – November 28, 2024 @ 7 pm

The meeting ended at 20:13. (GB)