



# FIRE COMMISSION

Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Rm A  
Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, 1 School St., Bethel, CT 06801  
Hybrid meeting via Google Meet

TOWN CLERK  
BETHEL, CT.

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**Present:** Chair Doug Cuny, Fred Ingram, Rich Straiton, Todd Smith, Pete Holmberg, Chief Evanuska (@7:50pm), and Chief McAllister

**Also present:** Fire Marshal Tom Galliford, Past Chief of SHFD Kenny Parciasepe, and EMT of SHFD Jim Mangi

Chair, Doug Cuny called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### **Consideration of approval of special meeting minutes from February 26, 2025:**

*Motion made by Fred Ingram, and seconded by Todd Smith, to approve the minutes as submitted. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

### **Reports:**

#### - Chairman's Report:

The requested budgets have been posted for the town. With the amount for recruitment and retention taken out of both budgets, BFD got exactly what they requested and SHFD got a \$10,000 reduction from the 5202 Equipment & Supplies account.

#### - Chief's Reports:

##### o BFD:

The departments have been working on the new system with creating the reports the Commission is looking for. Fire Marshal Tom Galliford presented the information that he was able to pull from the new system and show the Commission all the different types of reports that can be made. Discussion ensued.

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Todd Smith, to accept the Chief's report as presented. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

##### o SHFD:

Chief Evanuska was not present during this part of the meeting due to responding to a call. (The report was presented during the 10-year capital plan discussion)

### **Unfinished/Ongoing Business:**

- Review of previous month's expenditures:

The Commission review the expenditures: Fred Ingram asked for clarification on the charges that were labeled "St. Pierre of CO" that showed up on both departments' summary. Tom Galliford was able to let the Commission know that those charges are in regards to truck chains. There was discussion about how the monthly expenditures are confusing and if there is a way to make it clearer to understand.

- 10-year capital plans:

- o BFD

Chief McAllister gave a handout of all of the numbers and changes he would like to have added to the capital plan. Fred Ingram asked for clarification on if the amount for SCBA included bottles and the conclusion was that the amount is just for the harness' and masks. There was discussion about where the priority lies for the apparatuses and what vehicle should come first in regards to the 10-year plan. Tower-1 is showing as priority. Discussion ensued.

*Motion made by Rich Straiton, and seconded by Todd Smith, to put the replacement of Tower-1 in FY27-28 for \$2,800,000. Discussion ensued. Rich Straiton withdrew his motion.*

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Rich Straiton, that Rescue-1 gets put in for a replacement in FY30-31 for \$950,000, Tanker-1 gets put in for refurb in FY31-32 for \$200,000, Tower-1 gets put in for a replacement in FY27-28 for \$2,800,000, Squad-5 gets put in for refurb in FY35-36 for \$350,000, and the Chief's vehicle gets put in for replacement in FY33-34 for \$150,000. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

There was discussion about pricing and location on the capital plan for the airbags, e/draulic batteries, and rope replacement. There was also discussion with partial clarification from Tom Galliford about the mobile radios.

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Pete Holmberg, to add \$30,000 for airbags in FY26-27, get rid of the rescue rope replacement completely, and add \$5,500 for e/draulic batteries in FY27-28. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

- o SHFD

There was discussion about combining Engine-3 and Rescue-2 into a rescue pumper. The Commission brought up the point about needing to justify the need for replacement for each vehicle to make it easier to make a decision on these apparatuses moving forward and the reports would help with that. Discussion ensued.

*Motion made by Fred Ingram, and seconded by Doug Cuny, to move BFD Tanker-1 refurb for \$200,000 to FY32-33. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Rich Straiton, to leave Rescue-2 replacement for \$1,200,000 in FY26-27, and move Engine-3 replacement for \$1,300,000 for FY29-30. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Fred Ingram, to put the following items into the capital plant: \$12,000 in FY31-32 for airbags, \$60,000 in FY26-27 for replacement of e/draulic rescue tools, \$5,500 in FY29-30 for e/draulic batteries, and \$45,000 in FY26-27 for floor refinishing. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

Doug Cuny asked Chief Evanuska if he would like to present his report:

- 34 calls for the month
- 2 structure fires
- Went to Brookfield for a couple of mutual aid calls
- Went to Danbury to cover the house twice

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, and seconded by Todd Smith, to accept the report. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

- Tax abatement further discussion:

Chief Evanuska informed the Commission that he spoke to his department at their monthly meeting about the topic and their biggest concern was that a majority of their calls happen during the day (6a-6p) so the crew is worried about not being able to make the percentage that was recommended. There was also confusion about whether or not staffing hours were a part of that percentage and the Commission reminded the Chief's that 4 staffing hours equal to 1 call. Discussion ensued.

**New Business:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

*Motion made by Doug Cuny, seconded by Rich Straiton, to adjourn at 9:00pm. Vote, all in favor. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,



Kasey Galbis  
Recording Secretary