

Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department

Fire Commissioners' Meeting

April 9, 2018

Minutes

The Board of Fire Commissioners meeting opened at 1700 hrs. Fire Commissioners Riley, Macallister, and Frank were in attendance along with Chief Winn, Deputy Chief Eldridge, Lt. Davern, FF Dalbec, FF M. Rogers and K. Thut.

Roll call was taken. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the March 19, 2018 meeting. There were no ambulance waivers nor public comment.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Annual report draft
- Letter from Atty Doug Murphy re Paramedic student ride-alongs. **Chief updated EMTS Inc's request to use COMM's space for paramedic courses. Atty Murphy advised not allowing use of space for FOR-PROFIT organizations. There was also the suggestion that COMM only allow "student ride alongs" associated with non-profit organizations.**

PERSONNEL

- C. Schneckloth – out on a back IOD since 8/10/16, surgery on April 11, 2017. **Chief gave update.**
- T. Miskiv – injured his shoulder on 9/5/17. Returning to duty on 5/1/18.
- R. Scott is in week 6/10 of his recruit training. Graduation is May 11.

FIRE PREVENTION

See separate sheet attached.

BUDGET

- FY 2018 is beginning week 41/52 or 79% complete. Please see attached information. **Salary & OT lines are "on target." There were articles outstanding from years past: Station 2 app bay, computers, new boiler, duty officer vehicle and some in brush gear. These need to be turned in as a "general fund receipt" or be repurposed.**

DISPATCH

The four Nor' Easter Storms packing snow, wind and rain certainly had an impact on Dispatch operations and statistics for the month of March. COMM units were dispatched to 594 calls for emergency service during the month, which is 258 more than the same month one year ago! Of those March calls, 312 were fire or service related while 282 were EMS runs. Total COMM call volume for the first quarter stood at 1267, which is 255 more than the same period during 2017. In addition, we dispatched 123 runs for Cotuit Fire Department in March, as compared to 69 during March 2017. That puts Cotuit at 255 calls for the first quarter, an increase of 53 runs over 2017.

During one of the storms, the AT+T cellular network in the region was damaged and out of service for as long as 24 hours. This had a potential impact on Department operations, as many members are AT+T customers and receive notifications for emergency staffing through their cell phones. General awareness of the problem and

members turning to active monitoring of their radios seemed to mitigate the impact and allow for adequate call back staffing. Also the internet, through Comcast, was down for a time which affected paging capabilities to all Department members. The Avaya phone system was offline at one point, allowing calls to come in, but no calls out, except those on the dedicated line to Barnstable PD. Back up hardwired phones were put in place, and dispatchers used personal cell phones to make outgoing calls and all notifications to utilities regarding outages and downed wires. **Chief discussed "First Net" which is a cell phone network for First Responders (Police Fire EMS) which would give them priority over the towers. After more information gathered it will be presented to the Fire Commissioners. It also will allow you to operate your cell phone 800-radio frequency and a push-to-talk feature.**

COMM Fire Dispatch will be hosting a seminar on May 21st titled "Bullying and Negativity in the Communications Center". Sponsored by APCO, Association for Public Safety Communications Officials, the day-long event is open to all APCO affiliated departments. Registration is online through APCO International. Dispatcher Laurie Motte took the lead on setting up the session, with approval from Chief Winn.

The Dispatchers would like to thank the spare Dispatchers, Duty Officers, Administration members, and Firefighters for pitching in during the height of the storms. The call volume was at times four times greater than average, and only a true team effort was able to ensure that the District's emergency communications needs were met.

EMS

- Protocol update training is complete for 2018 with all groups and in effect. Valium and Morphine have been taken off of the ambulances.
- Tanxemic Acid training is also complete with the new medication expected to be on our ambulances in the near future.
- Meetings continue with our ambulance sales rep regarding the purchase of a new 325.
- COMM responded to a significant motorcycle MVA on 3/7 where the patient was transported to South Shore Hospital/Trauma Center.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

In spite of the weather, spring cleanup is underway. The new gear washers have been installed and the mold in Station 2 workout room is in the process of mitigation. The generator at the water tower will need to be replaced soon. **It currently serves both the water dept and the fire dept back up radios. Not originally engineered for these applications it is wearing out. Replacement has been recommended.**

EQUIPMENT

- 307 and new ambulance update – **Optional purchasing/financing options were discussed.**
- 324 electrical problem and mirror replacement, 325 u-joints and drive shaft
- Storm coverage including plowing was necessary
- 304 repaired cab steps

COMMITTEES

OPERATIONS

Car seat installations:

- # March: 16 (+6 compared to February)
- March OT hours: 6 (+4 from February)
- March OT cost: \$333.80 (+\$224.09 from January)

TRAINING

Last month saw a one-day mandatory Duty Officer training for 12 Lieutenants, 4 Captains and 2 candidates on the eligibility list. Topics included everything from MCIs to leave slips.

Training for FY19. **Captain Greene has rolled out a quarterly breakdown of training evolutions recommended allowing for the Captain to schedule at his discretion.**

Chief discussed the "Urban Interface Training" delivered by Josh Nigro of DCR.

PLANNING

Ongoing and continued meetings with Barnstable Public Schools on preparedness. **There have been successful meetings with the Superintendent exploring improving safety in our schools (local and town-wide). Some shortcomings have been identified and corrections have begun (i.e., installation of amplifiers in bldgs. For police/fire communications.) In addition COMM is purchasing radios that operate on their frequency so we can "eavesdrop" an emergent event. There is now an agreement in place w/BPD that we will be notified each time**

MISCELLANEOUS

there is a lock down or lock down drill and in return COMM will notify them in the case of a fire alarm activation or fire drill thus allowing for a dual response to schools. Chief described the new state-wide ALICE training for ASHE events.

Duracell battery donation post-storms


Purchase of new gym equipment

Traffic caused by Sagamore Bridge work was discussed. Before 11 PM COMM can go through JBCC with emergency vehicles. After 11 PM there is no access through Snake Pond gate. Alternate routes discussed.

NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 1752 hrs. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2018 at 1700 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Frank, Clerk

Fire Prevention Update March 2018

This month's Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts education session was cancelled due to one of the March storms. The weather also contributed to an unusual amount of emergency alarm responses for Fire Prevention (22) in March due to the widespread power outages across the district.

Both inspectors attended EMS Protocol update training, Duty Officer training, and FPO MacNeely also attended the Brush Fire training taught by Josh Nigro.

Existing commercial projects still under construction include the following Tradewinds Condominiums – 3 unit building, MSPCA - new building, Seventh Day Adventist Church – new building, EJ Jaxtimer- storage building, and Oyster Harbors Club – new Tennis Building. Only one new commercial project was presented at Site Plan Review within our District last month. Adam Hostetter proposed a nursery/landscaping use at the existing Bush Gardens property on Osterville West Barnstable Road.

This past month a total of 89 permits were issued by the Fire Prevention Office while collecting \$2145.00 in fees. Resale inspections of homes was the most common type of permit (60) and inspection (64). Overall the Fire Prevention Officers completed 233 inspections and/or activities 22 of which were Senior Safe Grant visits.

Martin MacNeely
Michael Grossman
Fire Prevention Officers