

Special Meeting of the  
Board of TFD Fire Commissioners  
**DRAFT** -- Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2020  
Thompsonville Fire Station, 35 N. Main Street, Enfield, CT

**1. Call to Order:** by Comm. DuFour at 6:10 pm.

**2. Roll Call:** present were Comm. DuFour, Comm. Perry, Comm. Pliszka, and Comm. Dodd. Absent was Comm. Reidy. Also present were Chief Deskis and Department Secretary Steneri.

**3. Discussion of Firefighter Candidates:**

Comm. DuFour said Chief Deskis has composed a list of the 18 candidates.

**MOTION to approve the hiring of the top two candidates from the list** made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Dodd. Discussion: Comm. DuFour said Comm. Pliszka is going to have to abstain. Comm. Pliszka said yes because I did the oral interviews. Roll Call- Motion passed 3-0 with Comm. Pliszka abstaining.

**4. Discussion of Captain's Promotion:**

Comm. DuFour read a part of Chief Deskis' notes: "The Promotional Exam process for the vacant Captain's slot is complete and I have three top candidates to chose from. There are also 7 other firefighters on the list in numerical order. I would like to promote one of the top three candidates in the next week before the next pay cycle. I will make it clear at appointment if the person chosen doesn't perform as a Captain, they will be removed after 6 months and the next person on the list will be given the opportunity."

**MOTION to accept Chief Deskis' recommendation for the Captain's promotion** made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Dodd. Discussion: none. Roll Call- Motion passed 3-0 with Comm. Pliszka abstaining.

**5. Discussion of Fire Marshal Position:**

Chief Deskis said the Fire Marshal for the past 46 years has retired. One of the current Deputy Fire Marshal's has been appointed to the interim position until a new Fire Marshal is hired. I would like to open up the position to the outside. Current members

who apply would receive extra points because they work here. I currently only have 2 candidates to apply for the position. One of the three Deputy Fire Marshals submitted a letter of resignation this morning. I don't think it is a fair process to only have 2 candidates. I don't want the position just to be given to someone. I would like to start the hiring process because the work cannot be completed by the Deputy Fire Marshal's working part-time. This position involves a lot of work and generates revenue for the District. I would like to put up a job posting right away so we can administer an exam, conduct interviews, and hire someone.

**MOTION to approve the Chief's recommendation for the position of Fire Marshal** made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Dodd. Discussion: Comm. Dodd asked if the position is changing based on the workload. Chief Deskis said it will be a 5-day work week schedule. There will not be a 4-day on 4-day off rotation. Comm. Dodd asked what happens if one of the current Deputy Fire Marshals is hired. Chief Deskis said the Interim Fire Marshal is currently our Training Officer. That would cause an opening for that position. There will be another promotional exam. Comm. Perry said it is a bumping process. Comm. Dodd said so you will be looking for someone who has the experience in generating the revenue that we are looking for. Chief Deskis said we can't hire someone with just a few years' experience. I don't want to put anyone in a position where they will fail. This position will have a probationary period as well. Roll Call- Motion passed 3-0 with Comm. Pliszka abstaining.

## **6. Adjourn:**

**MOTION to adjourn** made by Comm. DuFour, seconded by Comm. Perry. All in favor by ayes at 6:17 pm.