

BOLTON FIRE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020
BOLTON FIRE HOUSE – 7:00 P.M.

Chairman John Morianos convened the Bolton Fire Commission meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Commission members present were Robert Langton and Chris Moquin. Cheryl Udin and John Roback were absent. Fire Chief Bruce Dixon and Fire Marshal James Rupert were in attendance. Deputy Fire Marshal Bill Call was absent. Janet Assard was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Prior month minutes unavailable, tabled until the October 26, 2020 meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS – Copy of prior month's bills reviewed.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHIEF

- The Bolton Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) responded to 151 emergencies over the last two months. Our response to Tropical Storm Isaias logged 74 emergency calls. BVFD responded to a house fire in Andover where Chief Dixon handled water supply for eight towns and Bolton Truck 134 was used to extinguish a large volume of the fire, and Bolton Tanker 234 shuttled many loads of water into the scene. BVFD also responded to many motor vehicle accidents, three water rescue calls, several standby mutual aid calls, and many medical calls, including three CPR calls.
- Chief Dixon and Deputy Chief Eremita continue to attend the Unified Command meetings in town discussing the COVID-19 Virus and effects on how we operate in Bolton.
- As of this meeting in September, the final 2019-2020 fiscal year figures have yet to be published. We have multiple sets of turnout gear on order, part of our ongoing program of providing two sets of gear to our active firefighters. The BVFD has put in a Purchase Order request for the new boat under the Capital Investment program. Chief Dixon and the Fire Marshal's Office are in discussions with ESO, the parent company of the Firehouse software. ESO is discontinuing support for our current state reporting software and upgrading to a new platform that is up to date with emergency incident reporting, personnel reports, training reports and a number of new modules for the Fire Marshal's Office operations. Chief Dixon feels that we will not be able to migrate into this program until July 2021, due to the increased costs that we will have to be presented to the Selectmen for consideration in the 21-22 budget years.
- The new electronic sign has been installed due to the generosity of many people and local companies. We owe a lot of thanks to Deputy Chief Eremita for his engineering and

construction skills, and our town highway department for their assistance in constructing the base for the sign.

- Chief Dixon attended fire drills at both Bolton Center School and the Bolton High School to review their revised plans due to the COVID-19.
- We put together a virtual 9-11 ceremony this year with the assistance of Jim Aldrich, Sandy Pierog, Senator Steve Cassano, Rev. Bill Olesik, Melanie Merkel from Community Voice Channel, and music videos from the school band and chorus. This ceremony came out very good and is on the Community Voice Channel on demand website.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

- Jim Rupert did inspection for the Bolton Center School and Bolton High School. Both did very well overall, working on minor storage issues. Also working with Carlyle Johnson on minor issues. Fire Marshal Rupert was at Comcast last week- planning to do inspection in future. Also doing follow up inspection at Bolton Veterinary Hospital.
- Deputy Fire Marshall Call continues to conduct inspections on a weekly basis. To date all multifamily residential occupancies have had inspections and we are completing assembly occupancies currently. Those occupancies include our local churches. There has been one fire which was a moped fire along with some non-permitted burn activities.

OLD BUSINESS – Discussed new sign and features such as ability to dim at night and also goes out at night after 10:30 p.m. Can also be used to notify town of road closures or weather emergencies. Noted that no money came out of budget for new electronic sign.

NEW BUSINESS – Chief Dixon wants to have Fire Prevention in October, ideally some sort of activity for children outside, but also considering on-line presentation.

Next meeting scheduled for October 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Langton

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