

**MINUTES  
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.  
DON WILLIS HALL  
18 MAIN STREET  
MANCHESTER, CT 06042**

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The Board of Directors of the Eighth Utilities District of Manchester, Connecticut held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Don Willis Hall, 18 Main Street, Manchester, Connecticut.

Mrs. O'Marra called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved to table the minutes of the November 21, 2016 and December 19, 2016 Regular Monthly Meetings.  
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved the approval of the bills for payment. This includes the interim bill list and the regular bill list.  
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

Mrs. Bowen stated there is a correction on the interim bill list for the Fire Marshal. On the last page a wrong account number was typed in for \$15.32 (Home Depot Credit Services). The account number should be 80110660 for furniture not telephone.

Mr. Napoli moved to approve the interim bill list as amended.  
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Treasurer's Report.  
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Fire Chief's Report.  
Seconded by Mr. Luzusky.

Fire Chief Moore stated that he ran some numbers over the past six years for call volume. We closed out 2016 with 2,656 calls to date. This was the busiest year in the history of the department. We did 157 more calls this year than last year and that includes 2011, which was 2,600 calls because of the October snow storm. Last year we interacted with six different outside agencies.

We have not received a rejection grant letter, so Chief Moore believes we made it through the electronic scanning and are heading into peer review for the thermal imaging cameras.

Voted: Mr. Luzusky moved the approval of the Fire Marshal's Report.  
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

Fire Marshal Roback stated he also ran a comparison of 2016's annual monthly totals compared with the previous five years. That included inspections, plan reviews and plan review fees.

Mr. Napoli wanted to know if the check that bounced from a Sam's Club contractor was replaced. Mrs. Bowen stated it was and we were also refunded the NSF fee. Mr. Napoli asked when was the check replaced and was informed by Mrs. Bowen that two days after we were informed that the check bounced we received the funds and the NSF fee. It all occurred within a week.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Tax Collector's Report.  
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

Mr. Gionet stated that we added on the motor vehicle supplementals for this year and that we are doing well. Also Mr. Gionet stated that Terri is now a certified tax collector for the State of Connecticut as she passed her exam.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the Public Works Department Report.  
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

Mr. Topping stated that the equipment is being maintained. Also, if the temperature is above freezing the Department goes out to inspect lines.

### **INSURANCE REPORT**

Nothing to report at this time. Mrs. O'Marra stated that we will be working to get figures for next year's budget.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. O'Marra received a Thank You note from the CHMA Substance Abuse Action Council for our donation for the condolences to the Albert's on the death of their son.

We received an invitation from CBIA Government Affairs for the Manchester Legislative breakfast taking place on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Chamber. The invited guests that will be attending are State Senator Steve Cassano, State Rep. Jeff Currey, State Rep. Jason Rojas and State Rep. Mark Tweedie. This is to question the legislators and listen to their opinions on challenges that the looming budget is presenting, especially with the budget deficits and the loss of thousands of jobs over the past several months. Mrs. O'Marra, Chief Moore and Fire Commissioner Roback will be attending the breakfast meeting.

We received a letter addressed to the Chief from Dan French, the Assistant Fire Chief the Town of Manchester Fire Rescue EMS, thanking Chief Moore for the use of the spare engine for the last several months.

### **REPORTS**

Mr. Tyler stated that he attended a meeting as a private citizen of regional legislators. They are making a much more serious effort about regionalizing, not only functions but actual government. For instance, does the State of Connecticut need 169 school superintendents. There may be more talk about regionalization and consolidation because of the budget situation.

Chief Moore spoke about the Co-op property that was shut down. He has spoken to the Fire Marshal and they were able to secure a walk-through of the building on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. We want to find out what contents were left there and if there are any hazards for the public or firefighters should there be an issue. One of the biggest concerns is homeless people living there. Chief Moore will report back after the walk-through.

### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA BY BOARD MEMBERS**

No additions to the agenda by Board Members.

### **TIME FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No member of the public spoke.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion/Possible Action - FM Permit Fee Refund - \$18,417.88 - Gianna Drive**

Attorney LaBelle has had no further communication from Attorney Conti.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion/Possible Action – Shred Fest**

Mr. Tyler stated that we usually establish a date early in the year so that we can get the appropriate truck. The last couple of years the date was in conjunction with the flower sale but this year there may be a conflict. Mrs. Bowen stated that May 13<sup>th</sup> is “Ladies Night”, the dance that the fire department puts on. There might not be the volunteer turn out as in the past. Mr. Tyler suggested an alternative date. Mrs. O’Marra suggested May 6<sup>th</sup> or May 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Tyler will schedule the Shred Fest either on May 6<sup>th</sup> or May 20<sup>th</sup> depending on the availability of the truck.

**Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of Out of District Fire Department Applicant**

Mrs. Bowen stated she had an application from Joseph Wetherell. The Chief interviewed Mr. Wetherell and also ran a background check on him and everything came out fine. Mr. Wetherell is currently an EMT and he does not want to fight fires, he only wants EMS work which is good because that is what the bulk of our responses are. Mr. Topping stated that we can no longer ask for criminal history on an initial application for employment. Chief Moore stated it is now called the box ban law.

Mrs. Bowen made a motion to approve the application of Joseph Wetherell, out-of-district resident, for membership at the fire department.  
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

**GOOD AND WELFARE**

Mrs. O'Marra stated that everyone received a schedule of the date and times for the Stamp Club so everyone knows who is to open and close for this event. Mrs. O'Marra reminded everyone that it was their responsibility to open and close on the assigned dates. If someone is not available on their particular date, they must find someone to cover for them.

Mrs. Bowen stated that the application period for the new firefighter/EMT ended on January 6<sup>th</sup>. We received 58 applications. The President, Chief Langer and Chief Size have gone through them and weeded out unqualified applicants but the President, Chief and Mrs. Bowen will go through them again to double check to make sure everyone meets the criteria. A date will be picked for the test. If there are a lot of applicants, we will have two days for testing. Mrs. Bowen stated there are a lot of promising applicants.

Mrs. Bowen wanted to take the time to thank the firefighters who responded the night when a child was missing in town. The fire department was full of people that wanted to help.

Mr. Topping stated that at the beginning of the year the fire department had to respond to a potential carbon monoxide leak at the Oak Forest Condominiums. The occupant's son wanted to thank the department as his elderly mother lived in the condo.

Mr. Tyler wanted to congratulate the Fire Marshal for the fire prevention article that was in the Journal Inquirer.

Voted: Mr. Topping made a motion to adjourn.  
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

The January 17, 2017 regular monthly meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Mary O'Marra, President  
Deberah Bowen  
Karen Gionet  
Leonard Luzusky  
Gerard Napoli  
John Topping  
Joseph Tyler

FRANCES MCCARTER  
CLERK  
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT