



TOWN OF VERNON

P.O. Box 54
Vernon, CT 06066
www.vernonfire.com



STAFF MEETING MINUTES

October 1, 2018

Chiefs: Eppler, Babcock, Arel, Hammick
Captains: Andresen, Fisher, Maguda, McKinney, Muniz, Robertson, Shepard, Solito, Tautic
Lieutenant: Cascario, King
Ambulance: Gauthier
FMO: Walker, Call
Acting Fleet Mgr: Scanlon
Fire Police: Prue
Support Members: Carpenter, Galley

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VERNON TOWN CLERK
18 OCT - 9 AM 8:30

The meeting was called to order @ 19:04 hours by Fire Chief, Stephen Eppler. Motion was made/seconded (Solito/Maguda) to accept the minutes from the September 4, 2018 meeting.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT - A/C Babcock:

- Calls continue to be populating in Firehouse Software on a regular basis. Please ensure reports/narratives are entered in a reasonable timeframe.
- Additional intermittent issues with Active 911 page groups are happening. A/C Babcock is continually working with TN and Active 911 Developers for a resolution.
- New introductory class is progressing. The participants will finish with LT Augustus on 10/15.
- Thank you to those who participated in the Ellington Parade last month. The Department received three trophies from the event. (Most FF's in Line, Best Honor Guard, and Best Appearing Unit without Music)
- Nice job to all who operated at the Oriental Café Structure Fire, keep up the good work.
- Interested members who meet requirements that wish to be on the Captains Eligibility List for 2019-2020 should submit their resume's to A/C Babcock via email at rbabcock@vernon-ct.gov by November 5th at 1900hrs. Current Captains, wishing to run for re-election, should submit copies of the required two training certificates completed during this past term, with their resume.

MEMBERSHIP:

Resignation: Renee Smith (Aux), Christian Frezza (ET-241, effective 10/13)

Leave of Absence: Shelia Taridona (ET-241) 90 days

Return from Leave of Absence: Chris Fenner (ET-341)

OPERATIONS and TRAINING REPORT – A/C Arel:

- Training Committee Minutes from September 20, 2018 are attached.
- October Operations and Training Report is attached.
- October Drill Schedule is attached.
- October Fleet Management Report is attached. Captain Scanlon reviewed all items on report.
- Hose testing is scheduled for November, assistance will be needed. New hose at the PSB will be tested. Captain Solito will email Eppler with failed hose (size and color) in the rack at Station 441 for replacement.
- Discussion on desired sizes of 4” short lengths, determined that 25’ and 35’ would be appropriate. Captains were asked to send Chief Eppler a list of what you have and need.

HEALTH & SAFETY - Hammick:

- Yearly flu shot clinic will be sometime between mid-October – November.
- Heating season began today; all companies should check gas meters to make sure they are in working condition.
- EMS bags with CO detectors attached should be brought in for all medical calls. Due to the Rescue Companies assisting the Ambulance with 3rd and 4th calls, the disposable CO meters will be purchased for the Rescue EMS bags as well.
- We were not successful with grant for gear & stretchers. Will try again.
- Traffic safety vests order information has been put together, awaiting final price info to order.
- New Training Class has been met with and Steve Augustus is working with the class.
- Thursday, October 4th is the 8th Anniversary of the passing of Chief Kelley.

FIRE MARSHAL: Walker/Call – See attached.

- Today the State has changed state fire and building codes. Review is being done.
- Trail Run construction is underway. It is a fully sprinklered complex.
- The Fire Marshal's Office is still investigating cause origin of the Oriental Café structure fire. The tenants and building owner's insurance carriers are conducting their investigation as well. Even though a particular structure may be commercial in nature, members should continue to be aware of areas that may be occupied by individuals improperly staying on the premises. Make sure primary and secondary searches are still performed.
- Dollar Store on Windsor Ave. has been visited regarding reports of excessive boxes in aisles.
- The hydrant at Station 141 is out of service and working on getting it repaired.

COMMUNICATIONS: - Fisher:

- All continues to move forward with the upgrade of the Fox Hill Radio tower site. The new building scheduled to arrive later this week and bid opening for new communications tower is scheduled for this coming Thursday.
- The TN Communications Support vehicle (Service 119) is now in full service and available to us if needed.

FINANCE: - Fisher:

- Nothing new to report as we continue to progress through our budget on track.
- If you take any classes requiring reimbursement, please turn in an internal purchase requisition and supporting paperwork as soon as possible, do not wait until completion of class. Monies will be encumbered.
- R-441 and T-541 are still waiting for power equipment repairs that have not been completed. Chief Arel to contact the vender.

TECHNOLOGY - Galley:

- Hard drives are filling up due to a known Windows 7 issue, this is an ongoing problem. Let Dave know if anyone is having this trouble and he will resolve it. The computer in the ET-141 watch room at Station 141 has a full hard drive, Dave will address.
- New laptops & PC's are on order for scheduled replacement.
- Networked wired printers are good, no problems reported.
- Wi-Fi is not working on new printers. Dave is contacting Rich Mazalek to assist with fix.

- Chris Prue Map Drive is not fixed. Dave cannot repair. He needs access to thumb drive to fix.

FLEET MANAGEMENT: Scanlon

See attached report. Additional items discussed:

- Marine 141 leak was found in an air valve cover, and has been repaired. This will be monitored for a week to ensure it is ok prior to putting it back in service.
- Switch for hose dryer at Station 241 and Station 541 are defective. Captains are asked to email Chief Eppler ASAP with description of the issues as this is a safety hazard.
- ET-441 radio will not transmit.
- TW-141 has a blown light bulb.
- TW-541 Transmission issue will be looked at.
- Station 141 has old power equipment that is out of service, un-repairable waiting to be discarded. Asset disposal information has been sent uptown, waiting to hear on disposition.
- T-141 will be going to Greenwood the 2nd week of October for manufacturer's safety updates. It is expected to be gone for 5 days. They will be looking at software, the electronic circuit boards and the bucket.
- ET-241 will be out of service before 10/12/18 to replace primer.
- E-441 DOT inspection will be on 10/2/18. Expect it to be out for 2 days.

CENTRAL SUPPLY/UNIFORMS - Goric:

- Class A uniform fittings were held and uniforms are on order.

SCBA: - Shepard:

- SCBA Inspection sheets are needed from several companies
- Fit Testing schedule is attached. Contact Chico if you can't be there. Send a couple of members on each Monday evening in your designated month.
- Fit Tester is back from annual calibration.
- SCBA flow testing will be done October 15th.
- If there are any issues with any packs, let Scott know before the 15th.

- Cascade Systems at all the Fire Houses are being reviewed. Looking at moving the compressor from Station 141 back to Station 341 and getting a booster pump at Station 141 instead. Long term plan would include using only booster pumps at the firehouses with the exception of Station 341.
- Old style personal SCBA masks must be turned in. They need to be accounted for as they are not compatible with new packs. At this time we will not be issuing new style personal SCBA masks.

PUBLIC RELATIONS EVENTS - Muniz:

- October 6th (Saturday) both Stop & Shop stores for fire safety talk with the community. 11:00 to 15:00. In need two trucks, one for each site.
- October 6th (Saturday) Kmart 11:00 to 16:00 touch a truck and community Fire Prevention. Rescue 441 to handle.
- October 19th (Friday) Fire Prevention all VPS (Vernon Public Schools). Need two trucks and times are to be determined. Need manpower also.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- TN Run Card Review and Changes for new CAD system. All current run cards were reviewed and updated in preparation to TN's new CAD system to go online in November. A few modifications were made to address current and newly added Call for Service types summarized as follows:

Adding a 3rd engine to all vehicle fires, gasoline spills and brush fire calls (currently 2 engines on initial dispatch).

Adding a 3rd engine to LifeStar auto-dial calls to set up the LZ (currently 2 engines a rescue and ambulance on initial dispatch).

Adding a rescue to all natural gas/propane leaks calls (currently 2 engines and an aerial on initial dispatch).

Adding a rescue to all search and rescue calls (currently 2 engines on initial dispatch).

Adding a 2nd rescue and an aerial to all haz-mat calls (currently 2 engines and 1 or 2 rescue on initial dispatch depending on the zone).

Adding a 3rd engine to accident calls on the interstate, for blocking safety (currently 2 engines, a rescue and ambulance on initial dispatch).

New CFS of "Water Rescue", will be 2 engines and both rescues.

New CFS of “Appliance Malfunction” (no caller reported fire), will be 2 engines and an aerial.

Changes in closest mutual aid companies for 3rd and 4th alarms utilizing South Windsor and Manchester 8th (currently all zones covered by Ellington, Tolland and/or Bolton).

Changes in selected apparatus from mutual aid companies (updating for current equipment).

- Saturday December 1st is the 10th annual Arctic Splash fundraiser. Registration check-in is at 12:30, event starts at 13:00. Weather pending, there will be a bonfire. R-141, ET-241 and an Ambulance will attend. Volunteers to plunge are also welcome.
- A Mayoral Proclamation for Fire Prevention will be presented at the Town Council Meeting, tomorrow, 19:30, 3rd floor Council Chambers.
- November 17, 18, December 15 & 16 Stop & Shop HVCC food drives. Additional info will follow.
- Cell Phone Distractive Driving memo was discussed. It is attached; please make sure all members see it.
- Captain Shepard discussed parking on the one-way section of Prospect St. @ Chestnut Street. Cars and Tractor Trailer vehicles are parking on left. Chris Hammick stated VPD can be called for these instances, and Andy Marchese Zoning enforcement officer can be contacted for the for large commercial vehicle violations.
- Station 341 and 441 fire alarm systems (lack of) was brought up. Chief Eppler will contact DPW to find out status of when it will be done.
- The new Ambulance has arrived. It is awaiting EMS inspection.
- The Kaplan Motorcycle Museum will be hosting a private event on October 13 & 14 on the West Main Street location. Be aware of increased foot and vehicle traffic.
- Thank you for those who assisted with putting together the Fire Department Scarecrow for the Strong Farm scarecrow contest. Look for it on the West Street fence line.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Engine 4 Casino Trip will be held on November 10th. Additional information will go out via email.

- The Department Gala will be held on February 23, 2019 at Georgina's in Bolton. The out of town location has been approved by Administration.

GOOD & WELFARE:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made/seconded (Solito/Gauthier) to adjourn the meeting @ 20:45 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Carpenter".

Diane Carpenter, Secretary