

**SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
of the City of Middletown
445 Randolph Road, Middletown, CT**

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Held at the firehouse and available via Zoom - Meeting I.D. 875 9549 4703**

MINUTES

Present: Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath, and Penney; Chief James Trzaski, Deputy Chief Russ Jacobs; staff members

Absent: Commissioner Pessina

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

2. **CALL TO ORDER** Chairwoman Kleckowski called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

3. **ACCEPT/AMEND AGENDA**

Motion to amend the agenda to add “credit card policies and procedures” under New Business 12 c. by Comm. Penney/Comm. Thazhampallath. Voting was as follows:

Commissioners Giuliano, Penney, and Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Kleckowski	Nay

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Nay.

Motion to amend the agenda to add “South Fire District marker plates and badges” under Old Business 11 c. by Comm. Penney/Comm. Thazhampallath. Unanimously approved.

4. **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** Chairwoman Kleckowski opened the Public Session at 7:15 p.m. No one wished to speak.

5. **CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION** Chairwoman Kleckowski closed the Public Session at 7:15 p.m.

6. **MINUTES TO BE APPROVED**

A. **REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2022**

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 10, 2022 by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath. Unanimously approved.

7. **TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT**

A. **REFUNDS – JANUARY 2022**

Motion to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,050.82 by Comm. Thazhampallath/Comm. Giuliano. Unanimously approved.

B. **TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT – JANUARY 2022**

Motion to approve by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath. Unanimously approved.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. MONTHLY EXPENSE DETAIL – JANUARY 2022

Motion to accept by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath. Voting was as follows:

Commissioner Kleckowski, Giuliano, and Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Penney	Abstained

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Abstention.

B. PROFIT AND LOSS BUDGET VS. ACTUAL - JULY 2021 THROUGH JANUARY 2022

Motion to accept by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath. Unanimously approved.

C. CASH BALANCE REPORT – JANUARY 2022

Motion to accept by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath. Unanimously approved.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – JANUARY 2022

Motion to accept the reports submitted by Chief Trzaski, Deputy Chief Jacobs, Fire Marshal James Mastroianni, Deputy Fire Marshal Jason Hurlbut, and Captain Fischer by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Penney. Unanimously approved.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

A. BUILDING COMMITTEE – Commissioner Thazhampallath advised the Commission that everything is in a holding pattern. Christine Marques, CT Department of Economic & Community Development, Joe Samolis, Director of Planning, Conservation and Development, City of Middletown, and representatives from Landmark Architects recently had a walk-through of the addition/renovation project. A special meeting of the Building Committee will be scheduled to disband the committee.

B. PENSION COMMITTEE – COMM. KLECKOWSKI

Chairwoman Kleckowski advised that a meeting of the committee is anticipated in March.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS– COMM. GIULIANO

Commissioner Giuliano provided an overview of the PST meeting. The *Monthly Call Statistics – 2022* report was attached to the meeting packet.

D. RIVERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE – COMM. PESSINA

Commissioner Pessina was not in attendance to provide an update.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. HEALTH INSURANCE FOR RETIREES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS Nothing to report.

B. DISCUSSION OF NEW RESCUE/PUMPER

Chief Trzaski updated the Commission on the bid results of the RPF. The bids were outside the scope of what was anticipated, and the committee has decided to move in a different direction. The approved apparatus CNR expenditure for FY 2021-2022 is sufficient for a down payment. A special meeting will be scheduled to discuss the additional funds needed to purchase the apparatus.

C. DISCUSSION OF BADGE AND SFD FIRE COMMISSIONER PLATES

Motion to discontinue the use of Commissioner badges and marker plates by Comm. Penney/Comm. Giuliano. Unanimously approved.

A plan will be established for all badges and marker plates to be returned to the district by April 26, 2022, from both present and past Commissioners.

Motion to postpone consideration to establish a decal to the next regularly scheduled meeting by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Penney. Unanimously approved.

Motion to put on the agenda of the next regular meeting consideration of photo IDs for the Board of Fire Commissioners by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Penney. Unanimously approved.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT BY-LAWS AND CHARTER

Motion to open discussions of the process of amending the By-Laws and Charter by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Penney. Unanimously approved.

Motion to continue the discussion by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Penney. Unanimously approved.

Motion to adjourn by Comm. Penney/Comm. Giuliano.

Commissioner Penney withdrew his motion to allow discussion of the dates for the budget meetings. Commissioner Giuliano moved to withdraw his second to the motion.

B. DATES FOR BUDGET WORKSHOPS/PUBLIC HEARING(S) IN PREPARATION FOR 4/26/22 BUDGET REFERENDUM

Motion to schedule on March 8th at 6 p.m. an informational workshop for the Board of Fire Commissioners, on March 15th at 6 p.m. a public hearing on the proposed budget, and on March 22nd at 6 p.m. a special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to consider the budget and to vote on it, with public comment by Comm. Thazhampallath/Comm. Giuliano. Voting was as follows:

Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Penney	Nay

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Nay.

Motion to reconsider the motion to schedule the workshop, public hearing, and special meeting by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Kleckowski. Voting was as follows:

Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Penney	Abstained

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Abstention.

Motion to schedule the budget workshop for March 22nd, a public hearing on the proposed budget for March 29th, and a special meeting for April 5th with agenda items being a public hearing and adoption of the budget by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Kleckowski. Voting was as follows:

Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Penney	Nay

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Nay.

Motion to postpone “credit card procedures” to the May 2022 regular meeting by Comm. Thazhampallath/Comm. Giuliano. Voting was as follows:

Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath	Aye
Commissioner Penney	Nay

The motion passed with three Ayes and one Nay.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Thazhampallath.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Submitted by,

Alyse McEwen
Recording Secretary

Approved 3/14/22