

**SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
445 Randolph Road | Middletown, CT**

**Board of Fire Commissioners
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**

Held at the firehouse and via Zoom - Meeting I.D. 818 7536 7184

Present: Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Pessina, and Gregorio; Chief Trzaski, Deputy Chief Fischer, and one member of the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Kleckowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

3. ACCEPT/AMEND AGENDA

MOTION to accept the agenda as published by Comm. Giuliano/Comm. Pessina. Unanimously approved.

4. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Chairwoman Kleckowski opened the public session at 7:02 p.m. No one wished to speak.

5. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION Chairwoman Kleckowski closed the public session at 7:02 p.m.

6. MINUTES TO BE ACCEPTED

- a. **Budget Workshop of April 14, 2025**
- b. **Regular Monthly Meeting of April 14, 2025**
- c. **Budget Workshop of April 28, 2025**
- d. **Budget Public Hearing of April 28, 2025**

The minutes were accepted as presented.

7. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORTS – APRIL 2025

a. Refunds: \$134.58

MOTION to accept refunds in the amount of \$134.58 for April 2025 by Comm. Thazhampallath/Comm. Pessina. Unanimously approved.

b. Tax Collector's Reports

The Tax Collector's Reports were accepted as presented.

c. Approval of the transfer of Uncollectible Tax Bills to the Suspense Tax Book

MOTION to approve the transfer of uncollectible tax bills to the Suspense Tax Book as of June 2025 by Comm. Thazhampallath/Comm. Pessina. Unanimously approved.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. **Monthly Expense Detail: March 2025 and April 2025**
- b. **Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual: July 2024 through April 2025**
- c. **Cash Balance Report: April 2025**

The financial reports were accepted as presented.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – APRIL 2025

Chief Trzaski provided a synopsis of the Beman Middle School STEAM Program 8th grade student's visit to the firehouse. 330 students attended over the course of three days. It was a well-run event, and he received very positive feedback from the principal and students. He updated the commission on the fire marshal's participation in the international symposium on adult fire setters; the event was very innovative and informative. Chief Trzaski has been asked to review RFPs for the city for the remediation of Peterson Oil, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Jackson Corrugated.

Deputy Chief Fischer gave a summary of the larger vehicle repair expenditures during April 2025. He spoke about the Marine 3 Replacement Committee's trip to Ontario to meet with factory representatives from MetalCraft Marine. The committee was very impressed with the company and their confidence in the company has increased tenfold. He expects another trip in August at which time the new boat will be 90% complete. He reported that our old Marine 3 has been placed on public surplus for auction. The deputy gave an overview of the mock car crash event held at Xavier High School for their junior class and graduating seniors. The event was well received and will likely be held annually, perhaps with students from Mercy High School included.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a. Building Committee: Commissioner Thazhampallath

Commissioner Thazhampallath recognized Chief Trzaski for his leadership and day-to-day involvement in the progress of the building renovation project. The offices will be moved to the new addition within a week, and a temporary certificate of occupancy is expected to be issued this coming Friday. The security system is up and running. Chief Trzaski advised that asbestos remediation needs to be addressed in the existing meeting room. The project is expected to be completed by July, with a ribbon cutting ceremony likely to be held in the fall.

b. Pension Committee: Commissioner Gregorio

Commissioner Gregorio is waiting for confirmation from the financial advisor on a meeting date.

c. Public Safety Telecommunications: Commissioner Giuliano

The PST reports are included in the meeting packet. Otherwise, there is nothing new to report.

d. Riverfront Redevelopment Update: Commissioner Pessina

There is nothing new to report.

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. District Economic Development Updates

Commissioner Thazhampallath expressed his concern about the number of businesses closing in the district and throughout the city and the lack of activity by the city's Planning and Zoning Commission. The commission is hoping the Vale Sports Club on Randolph Road and the space on the complex for businesses to lease will have a positive influence on the district.

12. NEW BUSINESS None

13. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chairwoman Kleckowski opened the public session at 7:32 p.m.

Dan Penney

Mr. Penney reiterated his recommendation for the red-lined copy of the proposed by-laws changes to be posted on the website and that the Code of Ethics policy should be reviewed and approved. Mr. Penney told the commission he was very taken aback during the April monthly meeting when he was told his three

minutes of speaking were up and it was concerning to him that the comment came from the chair. He felt targeted and asked for an apology.

14. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION

Chairwoman Kleckowski closed the public session at 7:35 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by Comm. Pessina/Comm. Gregorio. Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

ACCEPTED 6/9/2025

Alyse McEwen

Alyse McEwen
Recording Secretary

The recording of this meeting is available on request, according to Connecticut Freedom of Information Act requirements.