

SOUTH FIRE DISTRICT
445 Randolph Road | Middletown, CT

Board of Fire Commissioners
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 9, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Held at the firehouse and via Zoom - Meeting I.D. 818 1136 9130

Present: Commissioners Kleckowski, Giuliano, Thazhampallath, Pessina, and Gregorio; Chief Trzaski and Deputy Chief Fischer (via Zoom)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Kleckowski called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

3. ACCEPT/AMEND AGENDA

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

4. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Chairwoman Kleckowski opened the public session at 7:07 p.m. No one wished to speak.

5. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION Chairwoman Kleckowski closed the public session at 7:07 p.m.

6. MINUTES TO BE ACCEPTED

a. Regular Monthly Meeting of May 12, 2025

b. Special Meeting of May 15, 2025

The minutes were accepted as presented.

7. TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORTS – MAY 2025

a. Refunds: \$90.91

MOTION to accept refunds in the amount of \$90.91 for May 2025 by Comm. Pessina/Comm. Gregorio. Unanimously approved.

b. Tax Collector’s Reports

The Tax Collector’s Reports were accepted as presented.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Monthly Expense Detail: April 2025 and May 2025

b. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual: July 2024 through May 2025

c. Cash Balance Report: May 2025

The financial reports were accepted as presented.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – MAY 2025

Chief Trzaski spoke about the community outreach and public relations events that occurred during the Month of May, including multiple Memorial Day parades. South Fire District hosted a leadership training seminar for SFD staff and staff from mutual aid departments, which was led by retired Miami-Dade Chief Dave Downey. An internal sign-up sheet has been posting for a lieutenant’s position. The intent is to conduct the testing process every two years. The list will be used to fill potential lieutenant vacancies. “Acting lieutenants” are also drawn from the list, which gives firefighters the opportunity to rise into the lieutenant role.

Deputy Chief Fischer spoke about a follow-up meeting for the Beman Middle School STEAM program held at the firehouse. Planning will begin for a STEAM “summer camp” for 8th and 9th graders with a focus on public safety and/or firefighting. The vision is for the camp to be a one-week event, a few hours every day, with a different theme each day. The deputy is working on the possibility of the installation of a dry hydrant on Bear Hill Road, using the CVH reservoir (formerly Hubbard Pond) as a water source. He has participated in site walks and meetings with CVH Water Treatment Facility staff. Preliminary clearance has been granted, and the application paperwork will be submitted to the state. The City of Middletown will help with the funding by constructing a pull-off area for the apparatus. This project will be a big boost for fire protection in that area.

Chief Trzaski advised that overseeing the building project takes up a lot of his efforts during the day and expressed his appreciation to the staff for ensuring the continuity of operations during the renovations. He praised the members who helped with the transition into the new space.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

a. **Building Committee: Commissioner Thazhampallath**

Commissioner Thazhampallath expressed his gratitude to Chief Trzaski for overseeing the day-to-day processes of the building project and thanked the staff for their involvement. He made it clear that no extravagances went into the renovation project and the committee has been, and continues to be, very conscience about the way money is spent. He is anticipating an early August completion date.

b. **Pension Committee: Commissioner Gregorio** - A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 6/12/25 at 2:00 p.m.

c. **Public Safety Telecommunications: Commissioner Giuliano**

The PST reports are included in the meeting packet. Staffing is at 18 and one starting training this month.

d. **Riverfront Redevelopment Update: Commissioner Pessina** - There is nothing new to report.

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. **District Economic Development Updates**

Chairwoman Kleckowski gave an update on The Forge complex on Randolph Road. Chief Trzaski updated the commission on the progress of the remediation of Peterson Oil, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Jackson Corrugated.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion of the possible cancellation of the July 2025 and/or the August 2025 monthly meetings. The meetings will take place as scheduled.

13. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Chairwoman Kleckowski opened the public session at 7:48 p.m. No one wished to speak.

14. CLOSE PUBLIC SESSION

Chairwoman Kleckowski closed the public session at 7:48 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Submitted by,

APPROVED 8/11/2025

Alyse McEwen

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Recording Secretary

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