

**CITY OF NASHUA
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Burgess
Don Davidson
Paul Garant
Ken Marquis
Anthony Patti

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Chief Brian D. Rhodes
Assistant Chief George A. Walker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Deputy Fire Chief Steve Buxton
Deputy Fire Chief Karl Gerhard
Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Kerrigan
Superintendent Jeremy Audette
Captain Glenn Nielsen
Private Jacob Dodge
President of Local #789 – Lt. Thomas Wholey
Vice President of Local #789 – Pvt. Michael O'Brien
Alderman Dowd
Alderman Wilshire
Various Members of Nashua Fire Rescue

THE MEETING CAME TO ORDER AT 5:30 PM

All stood as Fire Commissioner Burgess lead The Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was held for all recent deaths and all those lost and all of the men and women in the service.

OUT OF ORDER – Promotional Actions

Promotion of Training/Safety Lieutenant

20 67

Motion by Commissioner Garant to authorize the promotion of Fire Fighter Jacob Dodge to the position of Training/Safety Lieutenant, effective August 16, 2020

Seconded by Commissioner Patti

Vote: passed 5-yes

Promotion of Assistant Fire Chief

20 68

Motion by Commissioner Davidson to authorize the promotion based on information that has been previously provided including necessary documentation and supporting evidence in the case by vote of this body that the following promotion is approved: Effective September 1, 2020 Deputy Fire Chief Steve Buxton to be promoted to the position of Assistant Fire Chief
Seconded by Commissioner Patti
Vote: passed 5-yes

PUBLIC COMMENT (RE: NFR AGENDA ITEMS)

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

July 6, 2020 Regular Meeting

20 69

Motion by Commissioner Marquis to accept as presented the meeting minutes and place on file
Seconded by Commissioner Garant
Vote: passed 5-yes

Communications: Thank You(s) (2)

Town of Dunstable MA – Dive Team Assistance

20 70

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept as presented the communication and place on file
Seconded by Commissioner Patti
Vote: passed 5-yes

American Heart Association EMS Recognition

20 71

Motion by Commissioner Burgess to accept as presented the communication and place on file
Seconded by Commissioner Marquis
Vote: passed 5-yes

Departmental Detail Expenditures Report

20 72

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept as presented the Departmental Detail Expenditures Report and place on file
Seconded by Commissioner Burgess
Vote: passed 5-yes

REGULAR AGENDA

Staff Reports

A. Chief Rhodes

20 73 A

Chief Rhodes' report was accepted as presented and placed on file.

Assistant Chief Walker’s report was accepted as presented and placed on file.

Commissioner Davidson, on behalf of himself and the board, wanted to thank Assistant Chief Walker for his service to the city over the last thirty three years. He wished him well and to enjoy retirement.

Chief Rhodes thanked Assistant Chief Walker for his service. He expressed his gratitude for all that Assistant Chief Walker brought to the department. Chief Rhodes stressed that Assistant Chief Walker left the position better than he found it. Chief Rhodes appreciates Assistant Chief Walker’s friendship, professionalism and that he will be missed.

Discussions

Local 789

President Thomas Wholey expressed that he is looking forward to working with the board. He had no business to discuss on Local 789’s behalf at this time. He is proud and honored to represent Local 789. They have had some great meetings with the chief. They are working on a lot of great things for the membership and department. They met with The Master Plan team. President Wholey applauds the administration, the commission, the city and alderman for their work on The Master Plan. President Wholey is looking forward to negotiations.

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

City of Nashua ~ Temporary Policy on Emergency Leave due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) as of July 6, 2020 **20 75**

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept the city’s temporary leave policy due to COVID-19 and place on file

Seconded by Commissioner Marquis

Vote: passed 5-yes

REMARKS

REMARKS BY FIRE COMMISSION

Commissioner Garant wanted to echo what was previously said about Assistant Chief Walker. He thanked him for his service. He always enjoyed meeting with him and stopping in to discuss matters. He expressed that Assistant Chief Walker was always forthright and informative. He will miss him.

Commissioner Garant commented on the online Fire Permit process and how it was very easy. It was very efficient, very effective and really quick.. He thinks it is a great benefit to the citizens.

Commissioner Patti wanted to thank Assistant Chief Walker for everything he has been a part of over the past few years as commissioner. He expressed that he's known Assistant Chief Walker for a long time prior to him being a commissioner and that it was amazing to see the knowledge Assistant Chief Walker has with the department. He thanked him for his years of service and expressed that he will definitely be missed.

Commissioner Patti congratulated Firefighter Jacob Dodge and Deputy Fire Chief Steve Buxton.

Commissioner Marquis thanked Assistant Chief Walker for all he has taught him regarding NFR, pensions, etc.

Commissioner Burgess expressed his gratitude to Assistant Chief Walker for all of his contributions to the city and the department. He wished him and his wife a happy retirement.

Commissioner Burgess congratulated Firefighter Jacob Dodge and Deputy Fire Chief Steve Buxton.

PUBLIC COMMENT (RE: NFR NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Alderswoman Wilshire congratulated and thanked Assistant Chief Walker for all of his many great years of service to the city. He will definitely be missed. She hopes he enjoys retirement.

Alderman Dowd congratulated Assistant Chief Walker on his many years of service. He wishes him well and to keep busy.

Alderman Dowd congratulated Firefighter Jacob Dodge and Deputy Fire Chief Steve Buxton. He knows they will do a great job and that they are well trained.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Personnel Item

20 76 A

Motion by Commissioner Marquis to accept and place on file

Seconded by Commissioner Garant

Vote: passed 5-yes

ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA – Introduced at Meeting

N/A

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

20 77

Motion by Commissioner Patti at 17:59 PM to enter into non-public session in accordance pursuant to N.H. RSA 91-A:3, subsection 2C by roll call, which is required, to discuss matters which, if discussed in public, could adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of this public body itself, unless that person requests an open meeting.

Vote: passed 5-yes – by roll call

Motion by Commissioner Garant that the Board comes out of non-public session at 18:15 PM

Seconded by Commissioner Marquis

Vote: passed 5-yes

Commissioner Davidson stated that effective Monday, August 3, 2020 he is stepping down as chairman of the Board of Fire Commission. This leaves a vacancy to fill.

Nominate Kevin Burgess to Chair

20 78

Motion by Commissioner Garant to nominate Commissioner Burgess to fill the role of Chairman of the Board of Fire Commission.

Seconded by Commissioner Marquis

Vote: passed 5-yes

Nominate Don Davidson to Vice Chair

20 79

Motion by acclamation by Commissioner Garant to nominate Commissioner Davidson to fill the role of Vice Chairman of the Board of Fire Commission.

Seconded by Commissioner Marquis

Vote: passed 5-yes

MOTION TO ADJOURN

20 80

Motion by Commissioner Garant to adjourn the meeting at 18:16 PM

Seconded by Commissioner Marquis

Vote: passed 5-yes

TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday, September 14, 2020, 5:30 pm
at 177 Lake Street, Classroom

Dates and Locations of Other Events/Meetings: