

**CITY OF NASHUA
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023**

THE MEETING CAME TO ORDER AT 5:02 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Burgess
Paul Garant
Gary Lambert
Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
John Steere

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Chief Steve M. Buxton
Assistant Chief William B. Atkinson

STAFF NOT PRESENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Kerrigan (joined at 5:44pm)
Deputy Fire Chief James Kirk
Deputy Fire Chief Mark Wholey
President of Local 789 Thomas Wholey (joined at 5:44pm)
Fire Marshal Adam Pouliot
Members of Local 789

All stood as Commissioner Steere lead The Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was held for all those lost in the fire service.

PUBLIC COMMENT (RE: NFR AGENDA ITEMS)

N/A

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MELIZZI-GOLJA THAT THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO RSA 91-A:3 II (a) THE DISMISSAL, PROMOTION, OR COMPENSATION OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OR THE DISCIPLINING OF SUCH EMPLOYEE, OR THE INVESTIGATION OF ANY CHARGES AGAINST HIM OR HER, UNLESS THE EMPLOYEE AFFECTED (1) HAS A RIGHT TO A PUBLIC MEETING, AND (2) REQUESTS THAT THE MEETING BE OPEN, IN WHICH CASE THE REQUEST SHALL BE GRANTED

BY ROLL CALL

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAMBERT

A viva voce roll call was taken, which resulted as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Commissioner Garant	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Commissioner Lambert	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Commissioner Steere	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Commissioner Melizzi-Golja	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Commissioner Burgess	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL #	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>

MOTION CARRIED

The Board of Fire Commissioners went into non-public session at 5:05 p.m.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MELIZZI-GOLJA TO COME OUT OF THE NON-PUBLIC SESSION AND RETURN TO THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

BY ROLL CALL

SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAMBERT

Vote 5-Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The Board of Fire Commissioners came out of non-public session at 5:44 p.m.

Deputy Fire Chief Wholey and Fire Marshal Pouliot were interviewed for the two Assistant Chief positions in the training room.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes:

23 91 Wednesday, July 5, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

23 92 Wednesday, August 23, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

Report(s):

22 93 Departmental Detail Expenditures Report

Communication(s):

**22 94 From: Salem Fire Department
 Re: Mutual Aid Coverage**

23 91 – 94

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept and place on file, as presented, the Consent Agenda items as follows: 1.) The Previous Meeting Minutes, 07/05/2023, The Special Meeting Minutes (08/23/2023 2.) The Departmental Detail Expenditures Report and 3.) The Communication(s),
Seconded by Commissioner Lambert
Vote 5-Yes
Motion Carried

REGULAR AGENDA

Staff Reports

23 95 A Chief Buxton

Chief Buxton discussed the following:

- Thanked members for their service the past month and through the summer
 - Level of professionalism on and off duty of the members pays dividends for the department day in and day out
 - Most members are very humble people and do not like the spotlight
 - Members go out into the community, and they might check the uniform at the door but are ready to serve at any point and time
- FY24 Budget is tracking accordingly at this point and time
- Negotiated and ratified CBA by the Board of Fire Commissioners and Local 789
 - Had first reading on August 28th and was referred to Budget Committee
 - Goes to the Budget Committee on Thursday, 09/07/2023, at 6:30pm
 - Hopeful there will be a positive recommendation and move on to a Final Reading at the full Board of Aldermen on 09/13/2023
 - Final Reading on 09/13/2023

09/08/2023 kmc

- Action Items
 - Retirements
 - Promotional Authorizations

Motion by Commissioner Lambert to accept Chief Buxton's August report, as presented, and place on file

Seconded by Commissioner Steere

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

23 95 B Assistant Chief Atkinson

Assistant Chief Atkinson discussed the following:

- Purvis Project
 - Meeting on Thursday, 09/07/2023
 - Highlight installation schedule
 - Anticipate to start installing the component pieces at Station 5 next week
 - Anticipate having project completed in 11 months
- Cabling Project has begun in the city
 - Contractor is CommTract out of Massachusetts
 - Moving forward a little bit slower than originally anticipated
 - Weather issues slowed it down
 - Hopefully can make up for the delays with the weather this week
 - Three to four weeks for installation
 - Then Fire Alarm will make connections

Motion by Commissioner Lambert to accept Assistant Chief Atkinson's August report, as presented, and place on file

Seconded by Commissioner Steere

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

Discussions

23 96 Local 789

President Thomas Wholey discussed the following:

- The contract is the main focus
- Appreciate the board's time with the special meeting to get it to where it's at for budget
- Appreciate the continued support as it makes its way through the process with the city
- Special thanks on behalf of the Executive Board during negotiations to Chief Buxton and Deputy Chief Wholey
 - Tremendous Leadership
 - Understanding what's best for the membership
 - Contract speaks volumes on moving the organization forward, not just operationally and the growth of the department but for the members and how they provide for themselves and their families

- Great experience and hopeful that it will makes its way through budget and then for final passage

Motion by Commissioner Steere to accept Item 23 96, as presented, and place on file
Seconded by Commissioner Lambert

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

23 97 Authorization for action: Personnel
Approval of Promotion for Position of Assistant Fire Chief (C2)
Individual to be determined – Effective date To Be Determined

Motion by Commissioner Garant for the approval to promote Deputy Chief Wholey to
Assistant Chief (C2) effective date To Be Determined

Seconded by Commissioner Melizzi-Golja

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

23 98 Authorization for action: Personnel
Approval of Promotion for Position of Assistant Fire Chief (C3)
Individual to be determined – Effective date To Be Determined

Motion by Commissioner Garant for the approval to promote Superintendent of Fire Alarm,
interviewee Fire Marshal Adam Pouliot to Assistant Chief (C3) effective date To Be
Determined

Seconded by Commissioner Melizzi-Golja

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

23 99 Resignation Notification: Personnel

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept the notice of retirement from Assistant Chief
William Atkinson, Item 23 99, as presented and place on file with regrets

Seconded by Commissioner Melizzi-Golja

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

23 100 Resignation Notification: Personnel

Motion by Commissioner Lambert to accept the notice of retirement from Lt. William
Campbell, Item 23 100, as presented and place on file with regrets

Seconded by Commissioner Steere

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

REMARKS

N/A

REMARKS BY FIRE COMMISSION

Commissioner Melizzi-Golja

- Thank you to Assistant Chief Atkinson
- Congratulations to Deputy Chief Wholey and Fire Marshal Pouliot
 - Looking forward to working with them and wish them well
- Nashua Goes Back to School Event on August 24th.
 - Thank you to members of Local 789
 - Fire Marshal Pouliot and other members were there
 - Equipment there
 - Everyone had a good time and kids were grateful
 - Appreciate them being there to engage with the community, share school supplies, and had comfort having trucks parked in critical areas
 - Participation was appreciated.

Commissioner Garant

- Congratulations to Assistant Chief Atkinson for service to the city
- Congratulations to Deputy Wholey and Fire Marshal Pouliot for their service and dedication
- Congratulate President Wholey and the Executive Board for the CBA and hopes everything goes through

Commissioner Burgess

- Thank you and Congratulations to Assistant Chief Atkinson
- Time put in through the ranks and much appreciated
- And looking forward to passing the torch

PUBLIC COMMENT (RE: NFR NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

N/A

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Lambert to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 PM

Seconded by Commissioner Steere

Vote 5-Yes

Motion Carried

TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 5:30pm
Regular Scheduled Board of Fire Commission Meeting
at 177 Lake Street, Classroom

Date and Location of other Events

Thursday, September 7, 2023, 6:30 pm
Budget Committee Meeting to discuss Local 789 Contract
City Hall in the Aldermanic Chamber

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 7:30 pm
Final Reading of Local 789 Contract
City Hall in the Aldermanic Chamber

Friday, September 15, 2023, 9:00am
Habitat for Humanities
Playhouse being built
at Anheuser-Busch
Need assistance
If interested contact Commissioner Melizzi-Golja

Sunday, October 1, 2023, 10:00 am
Memorial Sunday, at Firemen's Memorial
at the intersection of Manchester and Concord Streets
Breakfast to follow at the Courtyard Marriot at Southwood Drive