



# OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT



SB CHURCH MEMORIAL TOWN HALL  
OXFORD, CONNECTICUT 06478-1298

## *Office of the Fire Commission*

OXFORD CENTER VOL. FIRE CO.  
QUAKER FARMS VOL. FIRE CO.  
RIVERSIDE VOL. FIRE CO.

The minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Oxford Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) held in the Oxford Town Hall at 486 Oxford Road, Oxford, CT on Monday, Mar. 24, 2014 are as follows:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian Francione at 7:09 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Roll Call:**

In attendance: Chairman Brian Francione, John Downs Sr., George Hamila, Mark Krassner, Mike Rubin, Joseph Chicowski, Asst. Chief Andy Coy, Asst. Chief Ron Prajer, Vic Noll. Absent: Chief Scott Pelletier.

MOTION made to accept the minutes of Feb. 24, 2014 meeting was made by Mark Krassner and seconded by George Hamila. All were in favor. MOTION carried.

### **Public Session:**

Chairman Francione then opened the meeting to the Public. James Gies, 389 Oxford Rd. Oxford, CT requested to discuss comments to the proposed Fire Ordinance as well as Ed Roman, 92 Bowers Hill Rd. Oxford, CT. All in favor to further discuss comments under Committees and Workshops.

### **Communication:**

Correspondence was received from the following:

1. Mar. 3, 2014: Letter from Board of Fire Chiefs to Board of Selectmen re: Firefighter Certified for Tax Abatement – 2013 and Tax Abatement Criteria 2007.01
2. Mar. 7, 2014: Letter from Board of Fire Chiefs to Board of Selectmen re: Unplanned Repairs at Center Fire Station B.P Heating and Cooling invoice
3. Mar. 13, 2014: Letter from Board of Fire Chiefs re: Unplanned Repairs at Center Fire Station with H.S. Chucta invoice
4. Mar. 13, 2014: Letter from Board of Fire Chiefs re: Unplanned expense for R44 with Gowans Knight invoice

### **Committees/Workshops:**

Organizational Structure: On hold pending Ordinance

Ordinance: James Geis provided hand out to the Commission which detailed a number of concerns with the proposed Ordinance wording and reviewed these concerns with the Commission. Ed Roman stated he was representing Quaker Farms and stated that Quaker Farms truly appreciates the Board of Fire Commission putting together the Ordinance and taking the time to develop it. In addition as a topic of discussion, he also verbally outlined some concerns with a few sections of the proposed wording in 35.02. Ed Roman also asked if the meaning of the language in regards to Rejection or Approval of the Selection of Chiefs meant when the name is provided to the Commission does the Board have the right to reject the name/candidate provided. Chairman Francione added that only a recommendation is provided to the Selectmen. Ed Roman also suggested the following language be reviewed and possibly revised: in regards to duties of the Fire Commission, specifically the language of "but are not limited to"; re: preparation of the annual budget – his suggestion is that "in collaboration/or oversight with the Chiefs"; also in regards to preparation of the annual budget he asked if the word development is appropriate language. Mark Krassner suggested that the Ordinance subcommittee meet one final time and requested that the Commission be provided Quaker Farms concerns in a written statement for clarity and for discussion at the workshop. John Downs, Sr. voiced concern that the Commission has already sat down multiple times and finalized the proposed Ordinance wording with the Company representatives but it appears that the Company's keep putting stumbling blocks and asked if perhaps a group of OFD wants to not have a Board of Fire Commission. Ed Roman stated that the group just wants to have clarity in the proposed wording and to understand the language. Brian Francione added that the company representatives have done a great job and perhaps we should give it one more workshop.

John Downs, Sr. made a MOTION to have one final Ordinance workshop with the Board of Fire Commissions as well as all Company Representatives in attendance. Mark Krassner seconded the motion. All in favor. MOTION carried. Secretary to email all company representatives the date and time of meeting.

Policy and Procedures: On hold awaiting Ordinance

Budget Committee: Waiting on feedback from Finance Board

Chiefs/Department Report: Asst. Chief Coy shared the following:

1. Everything up and running ok
2. Critique on two recent fires will be held on Thursday evening
3. Update on radio site – waiting on phone and power company and will soon be up online hopefully
4. Chief Pelletier met with Finance Board last week, have not received any further information back yet but will meet with Commission Representatives once he gets it back

Unfinished Business:

Mark Krassner asked for confirmation that the mailing lists have now been updated. Vic Noll confirmed that is has.

**New Business:**

Group discussion on Election of Chairs for 2014.

MOTION made by Mark Krassner to nominate George Hamila as Secretary. George declined. Brian Francione made a MOTION to nominate Joseph Chicoski as Secretary. Joseph declined. Brian Francione made a MOTION to nominate John Downs, Sr. as Secretary. John declined. Brian Francione made a MOTION to nominate Mark Krassner as Secretary. Mark declined. Brian Francione made a MOTION to nominate Mike Rubin as Secretary. Mike declined. Mark Krassner volunteered to fill the Secretary position. All in favor. MOTION carried.

MOTION made by John Downs, Sr. to nominate Mike Rubin as Vice Chairman. Mike declined. Mark Krassner nominated George Hamila. Seconded by Mike Rubin. All in favor, MOTION carried.

MOTION made by John Downs, Sr. to nominate Brian Francione as Chairman. Seconded by George Hamila. All in favor, MOTION carried.

**Public Session:** Chairman Francione then opened the meeting to the Public. He asked three times if anyone from the Public would like to speak. With no responses, Public session closed.

**Good of the Commission:**

Brian Francione commended the Chiefs and Officers for a job well done as the two recent house fires. John Downs, Sr. suggested the Chiefs ensure that next year the snow is cleared from around the two portable tanks.

Group discussion on setting up meeting for next Fire Ordinance Workshop. Group decision meeting to be held on Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at 7pm at Center. Company Representatives are requested to attend.

MOTION made to adjourn meeting made by John Downs, Sr. and seconded by George Hamila. All in favor. MOTION carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Caruso, Recording Clerk

Board of Fire Commissioners

14 MAR 31 PM 2:22  
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT  
*Margaret A. West*  
TOWN CLERK