

CITY OF LOCKPORT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – OFFICIAL RECORD

M-24 at City Hall & gotomeeting.com

Tuesday, January 12th, 2021 – 5:30pm

Present: Commissioners R. Bates, L. Kantor, D. Michel, C. Morello, J. Schratz. Also present, Chief P. Brady, Mayor M. Roman, Deputies Corporation Counsel P. McGrath and J. Cafarella, Civil Service/Personnel Director M. P. Filbert, Asst. Fire Chief L. Quagliano, City Clerk P. Oates

Comm. Morello called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

- I. Reports Received**
 - **Motion by Comm. Kantor seconded by Comm. Bates for reports received. Ayes 4**
- II. Reports Accepted**
 - **Motion by Comm. Bates seconded by Comm. Morello for reports accepted. Ayes 4**
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - **Motion by Comm. Bates seconded by Comm. Kantor to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 8th, 2020. Ayes 4**
 - **(Arrival of Comm. Schratz) Motion by Comm. Morello to suspend the nomination and election of a new board president for 2021 until the February meeting. The decision was made to allow new Comm. Michel the opportunity to gain familiarity with the board. Seconded by Comm. Bates. Ayes 5**
 - **Mayor Roman welcomed Denise Michel to the Board of Fire Commissioners, and thanked former commissioner Kitty Fogle for her work during her tenure.**
- IV. Review the Chief's Agenda**
 - **LFD Personnel Attending Paramedic Classes: There are five attendees at ECC, currently in their 2nd semester. All are doing well and still doing clinical time. They will finish in August, 2021.**

- **COVID-19 Update:** Last March, LFD responded to 10 COVID calls. Last month (Dec. 2020), there were 29 calls. As of Jan. 12th, there have been 10 such calls. Skilled nursing facilities have been particularly hard hit. Department personnel are wearing the prescribed PPE (face shields, surgical masks, etc.) on calls. Of the LFD personnel who have tested positive for the virus, three are currently out and are expected back in a week or two.
- **Vaccinations:** 28 of 37 members of LFD have been vaccinated (or will be this week) among four different locations. EMS providers were part of Phase 1A; Phase 1B, which opened this week, includes firefighters. Members of the department expressed concern about the second round of vaccinations. The state website worked extremely well for sign-ups. Chief Brady received his vaccination on Friday (Jan. 8th) in Niagara Falls.
- **LFD Staffing Split Update:** At the request of Comm. Schratz, Chief Brady inquired how other departments were keeping personnel safely distant. Chief Brady said Lockport was the only department splitting its staff and using the building of a volunteer department. Fostering a good relationship with South Lockport made the arrangement possible (housing three LFD staff on Ernest Road). It had to be done to help keep the staff healthy. Regarding the impact, travel time in Dec. 2019 was 3.05 minutes (on average). In Dec. 2020, it was 3.30 minutes. Response time was 1.25 minutes in Dec. 2019, and 1.30 minutes in Dec. 2020.
- **CPR, ACLS, PALS, ITLS Cards:** Renewals on 'alphabet' cards are coming up. They are two-year renewals. Next: CPR tests in February.
- **Assistance to Firefighters Grant Period:** Opened Jan. 4th and it closes Feb. 12th. 2,000 awards are expected to be given. The city's cost share has been lowered from 10% to 5%. The request cap is \$1 million (equal to about one piece of fire apparatus). LFD will look to add a Quint pumper. Chief Brady indicated that the ladder truck is the only piece of equipment at end-of-life. 1997 was the last year the city bought a piece of fire apparatus without grant money.
- **Civil Service Exam Results:** The results came back around Jan. 1st. The list is certified. 87 or 88 people are on the list, including

10 who scored 100. LFD will be looking to hire six people in the near future. Comm. Morello said the board should hire two lateral transfers right away, since it would alleviate overtime, state training academy requirements, etc. Mayor Roman agreed, provided eligibility requirements are met. Deputy CC Cafarella said he would research the matter. M.P. Filbert said lateral transfers would have to be permanently appointed and would have to have completed their probationary period in NYS. Chief Brady said agility testing will take place Feb. 3-5, with the fire academy set to start Mar. 12th.

V. Executive Session

- Motion at 6:47pm by Comm. Kantor to enter into executive session to discuss personnel-related promotions, seconded by Comm. Morello. Ayes 5

VI. End of Executive Session

- Motion at 7:23pm by Comm. Kantor to exit executive session, seconded by Comm. Morello. Ayes 4 (Comm. Schratz had exited the meeting during executive session)

VII. At 7:29pm Comm. Kantor moved that the Board be adjourned, seconded by Comm. Bates. Ayes 4

The next regular meeting of the Fire Board will be held on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully,

Paul K. Oates

City Clerk

CC: Fire Board, Chief Brady, Mayor Roman, Common Council, and Corporation Counsel