

**Board of Fire Commissioners  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 13, 2018  
7:30 pm Mortlake Fire Department**

- 1. Call to Order** **Call to Order:** First Selectman, Richard Ives called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. (19:30 hours).

**Attendance:** Rick Ives; Lou Brodeur; Jeff Otto; Felix Ramos.  
Patrick Gauthier was absent with notice. James Soler was absent.

**Others Present** – Jim Warren, East Brooklyn Fire Chief; Steve Breen, Mortlake Fire Chief; Sandra Brodeur.

- 2. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 9, 2018**

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2018, as presented. Second by F. Ramos. Motion carried unanimously (4-0-0).

- 3. Public Comment**

Sandra Brodeur asked if she could find the rules/regulations/membership regarding this Commission in writing anywhere. Mr. Ives stated that there is an Ordinance and that it is available on the Town's website under Town Code.

- 4. Equipment Discussion**

L. Brodeur and S. Breen explained that their ET is in the process of being repaired following the accident that occurred in March. Some parts need to be custom made. They expect that it will be ready in three-to-four weeks. Cost to repair the accident damage is \$15,211.00.

J. Otto stated that, at some point this year, a specification needs to be generated so that bids can be obtained for the East Brooklyn truck (the Town's Purchasing Ordinance requires that it be done by bid). Mr. Ives suggests that the same process be used as was done for the last truck, but that, for the next truck, a plan should be in place before the truck is decided upon. Discussion continued and Mr. Otto explained that there has been a shift (over the last ten years) in the way that fire trucks are purchased. There are often great savings (30 percent or more) if you purchase a truck that is built the way that the manufacturer wants to build it.

Mr. Ives stated that the Commissioners should work on specs during the next meetings.

- 5. Department Discussion**

- a. Recruitment**

There was no new information regarding the EMS Bike Squad. Mr. Otto commented that a newspaper reporter had contacted him a few days ago and that he had seen that there was an article in the paper with Patrick Dragon.

There was discussion and Mr. Breen stated that they would need to come up with ground rules, but Mr. Dragon's has not been available due to his busy schedule. Mr. Brodeur stated that they would be looking to start the program next year.

Mr. Ives asked about Junior Firefighter programs. Mr. Breen stated that Mortlake does not officially have a program. Mr. Breen and Mr. Brodeur explained that they had sponsored a program that was run through the Boy Scouts. Mr. Otto explained that, since 1944, an applicant can become a full member at 16 years of age, so the starting age doesn't line up with Statutes. Mr. Ives will check the Statutes regarding adopting guidelines regarding minors.

There was discussion regarding Fair traffic. The cost for State Troopers is \$45,000. Mr. Ives spoke of doing something similar to Woodstock (trained service people).

State Emergency Management Homeland Security Drill is on Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8 am – 2 pm. Mr. Ives asked to have representatives/participants from the Fire Departments. It is going to be a flood-related exercise. Discussion continued.

**b. Retention – No Discussion.**

**6. Financial Reports Discussion – No Discussion.**

a. **Budget Discussion – No Discussion.**

**7. Other Business**

J. Otto asked about the standings with VFIS. Mr. Ives expects to have a number next weeks. He would like to meet with each Department beforehand to be sure that he understands everything, so that he will be comparing apples to apples. Discussion continued. Mr. Ives stated that there may be a need to have a meeting before the beginning of the fiscal year.

**8. Public Comment – None.**

**9. Next Meeting – July 11, 2018, at East Brooklyn Department**

East Brooklyn's Chicken Dinner is June 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Mortlake's Barbeque is July 29<sup>th</sup>.

**10. Adjourn**

Motion was made by L. Brodeur to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. (19:52 hours). Second by J. Otto. Motion carried unanimously (4-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault

Recording Secretary

Brooklyn Board of Fire Commissioners

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