

Town of Hamden
Fire Commission Special Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Memorial Town Hall at 2372 Whitney Avenue, Hamden

A special meeting of the Hamden Fire Commission opened on January 9, 2023 in the Legislative Auditorium at Memorial Town Hall.

Commissioners in Attendance: Nancy Hill, Victor Mitchell, Cherlyn Poindexter, Samod Rankins, and Gary Tinney, Chair. Also in Attendance: Fire Chief Jeffrey Naples; and Clerk for the Commission Patrice LeMoine. Also in attendance: Curtis Andrews, from Civil Services and Adrian Webber, chair of public safety.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Tinney, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A roll call was held, confirming a quorum was present.
2. **Moment of Silence:** Mr. Tinney requested a moment of silence for the loss of Firefighter Matthias Wirtz.
3. **Fire Department Update:** Vacancies in each rank as of today:
Fire Chief Naples noted the current report was presented this evening and is identical to the information presented to the Commission last month. There are two Firefighter Paramedic positions, one Fire Inspector, one Firefighter EMT position, one Fire Captain, and one Assistant Fire Chief. The Commission is holding interviews this evening for the hiring of the fire captain, fire inspector, and firefighter paramedics.

Fire Chief Naples gave a summary of the recent fire emergencies that occurred over the past month. He praised the amazing work of each division and those newly hired firefighters that were on the line did a great job.

4. **Executive Session:** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to go into session for the purpose of conducting interviews for the hiring of one (1) Fire Captain position; one (1) Fire Inspector position; and two (2) Entry-Level Certified Firefighter Paramedics. Mr. Mitchell motioned to go into session at 6:16 p.m. and was seconded by Mr. Rankins. The motion passed unanimously. At this time, the Commissioners moved to MTH 01 conference room.

At 8:41 p.m. Mr. Tinney requested a motion to end the executive session. The motion was made by Mr. Rankins and seconded by Mr. Mitchell.

Chair Mr. Tinney requested a vote for the following:

For the position of **Fire Captain**, Mr. Tinney requested a vote to appoint James McCarthy.

Nancy Hill	Nay		
Victor Mitchell	Yea	Cherlyn Poindexter	Yea
Samod Rankins	Nay	Gary Tinney	Nay

Results of vote: two in favor, three opposed. The vote did not carry.

Mr. Tinney requested a vote to appoint Joseph Anderson

Nancy Hill	Yea		
Victor Mitchell	Nay	Cherlyn Poindexter	Nay
Samod Rankins	Yea	Gary Tinney	Yea

Results of vote: three in favor and two opposed. **Mr. Joseph Anderson** has been appointed to the position of **Fire Captain**.

For the position of **Fire Inspector**, Mr. Tinney requested a vote to appoint Russell Quick.

Nancy Hill	Nay		
Victor Mitchell	Yea	Cherlyn Poindexter	Nay
Samod Rankins	Yea	Gary Tinney	Abstention

Results of vote: two in favor, two opposed and one abstained. The vote did not carry.

For the position of two **Entry-Level Firefighter Paramedics**, Mr. Tinney requested a vote to appoint Mark Bascetta.

Nancy Hill	Yea		
Victor Mitchell	Yea	Cherlyn Poindexter	Yea
Samod Rankins	Abstention	Gary Tinney	Yea

Results of vote: four in favor, no one opposed, and one abstained. **Mr. Mark Bascetta** is appointed to the position of **Firefighter Paramedic**.

For the position of two **Entry-Level Firefighter Paramedics**, Mr. Tinney requested a vote to appoint Jean Nimba.

Nancy Hill	Yea		
Victor Mitchell	Nay	Cherlyn Poindexter	Yea
Samod Rankins	Yea	Gary Tinney	Yea

Results of vote: four in favor, one opposed, no one abstained. **Ms. Jean Nimba** has been appointed to the position of **Firefighter Paramedic**.

5. **Executive Session:** At 8:46 Mr. Tinney requested a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. Mr. Mitchell motioned and was seconded by Mr. Rankins. All were in favor.

At 9:09 p.m. Mr. Tinney requested a motion to end the executive session. Mr. Rankins motioned to end executive session and was seconded by Mr. Mitchell. All were in favor.

Special Meeting: The Commissioners proposed to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the hiring of one (1) Entry-Level Firefighter EMT. Confirmation will be completed by Tuesday, January 10.

Ms. Poindexter requested a discussion regarding best practices by legal counsel, Attorney Dennis Dureo, to attend the next meeting.

6. **Adjournment.** Mr. Tinney requested a motion to adjourn. Ms. Poindexter motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Ms. Hill seconded, and all were in favor.

Submitted by:

s/Patrice A. LeMoine

Clerk for the Commission

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