

Special Fire Commissioner's Meeting:

Discuss the appointment of an acting Chief to cover the department until the search process is completed and a new chief has been appointed

12.20 .21

Present: Chairman Rick Pisano, Commissioner's Adam Zais & Kevin Conley,

Fire Chief Paul Rhude

– meeting in Town Hall and Zoom

- **Public Comment**

- No public comment but will ask at the end of the meeting

Fire Chief Report: N/A

Monthly Activities: N/A

Administration: N/A

SOGs

- N/A

PRO EMS REPORT: N/A

Training: N/A

Personnel: N/A

CHIEF SEARCH:

- **Find a cleaner solution for Chief Rhude as he needs to devote more and more of his time to his new job and his ability to continue to help the fire department with coverage is getting stretched.**
 - **Guest – former Chief Michael Small – Chief in Falmouth for years.**
 - **Offered to serve as an interim Chief for the period of time of 6 weeks (minimum) before new Chief is in place**
 - **Will not put Chief Small in jeopardy for his hourly retirement limit**
 - **Chief Rhude has indicated that he will be around as much as possible to help the new Chief to become familiar with procedures and a senior officer will be on board**

- Commissioner Zais asked if there will be any discussions about internally appointing a new Deputy? He has had conversations with guys in house and there is maybe contrasting points of view regarding issues but that there is interest and support for an acting Deputy. Is this something that would be discussed?
 - Chairman Pisano answered that question would remain open and with Chief Small as the acting Chief would get an opportunity to get more input regarding how it would work.
 - Chairman Pisano stated that he has had discussion with various members of the department about this as well. He says that it gets complicated in terms of the back coverage and the department is still down one person on IOD.
- Chairman Pisano suggested that the department set a flat weekly rate of \$4000.00 / week for Chief Small. He would be an hourly contracted employee without benefits.
 - Wording on the contract: *“Duties and responsibilities would be as described in the most recent Chief’s contract to last until a new full-time Chief has been appointed”*.
 - Currently paying Chief Rhude weekly rate of \$3000.00 / week
 - Enough money left in budgetary payroll for Chief Rhude’s salary of the year
 - Chairman Pisano made the Motion that the Commissioner’s offer the position of acting Chief to Chief Michael Small to begin on 12.31.21 to with weekly pay rate of \$4000.00 per week and duties and responsibilities as described in the recent Chief’s contract. The term is to last until a full-time chief is appointed.
 - Commissioner Zais asked Chief Rhude about his role.
 - Chief Rhude stated that as of 12.31.21, Chief Small would be acting fire Chief, and that Chief Rhude would be paid on an hourly basis. He would not have any rank. He would also transfer the vehicle at that time as well
 - Motion voted on and all in favor.
 - Motion to have Chief Small involved in the interviewing and search for new fire Chief
 - All in favor-unanimous

Apparatus: N/A

Facilities: N/A

Cotuit Currents: n/a

Budget: N/A

Needs Assessment: n/a

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: N/A

Commissioner Zais - School Building subcommittee: N/A

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Commissioner Zais – Elementary School update

- N/A

FIREFIGHTER PHYSICAL FITNESS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Conley & Chief Rhude

- N/A

New Business: n/a

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **No public comment**

Motion to Adjourn

All in favor