

APPROVED MINUTES of the Joint
Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of
Rye and the Board of Fire Wardens held in City
Hall on January 20, 2003 at 8:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

STEVEN OTIS, Mayor
FRANKLIN J. Chu
CAROLYN CUNNINGHAM
ROBERT S. CYPHER
ROBERT H. HUTCHINGS
ROSAMOND LARR
DOUGLAS Mc.R. MCKEAN

ALSO PRESENT:

Chiefs HOGBEN, WICKHAM and COTTER
Wardens PEREZ, T. BANAHAN, J. BANAHAN, DONAHUE,
and BEACH
Members ELLMORE, CARLUCCI and COOK
Professional Firefighters AIKEN, TIETJEN and McDWYER

The City Council met in Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter at 7:15 P.M. The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:29 P.M. and the Joint Meeting with the Fire Wardens commenced at 8:30 P.M.

1. Board of Wardens Workplan

Warden Donahue reviewed the seven committees and tasks. The Chairs have been named and hopefully more members will join the committees and tasks will be further defined and accomplished. Councilwoman Larr noted the need to establish timelines and provide regular reports to the City Council.

2. Training Issues

Chief Wickham coordinates training for Volunteers. All new members must complete Essentials and Intermediate Firefighting before being able to go to fires. Drilling occurs weather permitting.

Firefighter Tietjen explained the one-hundred mandatory hours of training the paid staff coordinates. The career firefighters coordinate their own training and attempt to accomplish as much required training as possible, and also tailor the courses to meet the interests of their members.

3. RFP for the Study

There was agreement to schedule a meeting in the next two weeks to specifically review and refine the RFP. Chief Wickham noted the need to include manpower in the study.

Firefighter Tietjen respectfully pointed out that the study needs to occur, there has been talk for over two years and he has little confidence that the committee efforts of the department will accomplish what needs to be done.

Warden Donahue, speaking as a private citizen, expressed his reservations about using the contingency fund to pay for the study given the overall financial condition of the City.

4. Hiring of Additional Firefighter

Mayor Otis noted that the Council wants to move forward with this and the City Manager has received instructions to resume talks with the professional staff and proceed with this hiring.

5. Fire Inspector Use of Vehicle

The Wardens reiterated their request that the Fire Inspector be permitted personal use of his City vehicle. The Council asked some questions and are considering this request, but have made no determination at this time.

Meeting adjourned to executive session at 10:50 PM. The executive session concluded at 11:00 PM.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business to be considered, the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia D. Novak
City Manager