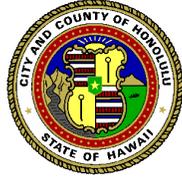


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DENNIS MORTON

CRAIG NAGAMINE

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Lee called the regular meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Wataru, Stefanie Lee, Charlotte Nekota, William Hong, Dennis Morton and Craig Nagamine.

MEMBER EXCUSED: Max Hannemann.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Manuel Neves (HFD), Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr. (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasui (HFD), Jolyn Garidan Prieto (HFFA), Brian Ancheta (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY. Vice Chair Lee asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to give public testimony. Ms. Celeste Nip (HFFA) introduced herself and wished the Commission a happy holiday season on behalf of Robert Lee (HFFA).

III. PRIVATE CITIZEN COMPLAINT. Vice Chair Lee went over a complaint with the Commission in regards to a nursing home incident and asked Fire Chief Neves if he knew of the complaint. Fire Chief Neves answered, "No".

Vice Chair Lee gave Fire Chief Neves a copy of the complaint for review and read it to the Commission.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that he will turn over the complaint to Chief Rico to gather background information and update the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

Vice Chair Lee ask for a motion to turn over the complaint to Fire Chief Neves. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded it.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2018. Vice Chair Lee called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of November 14, 2018. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded, there being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as adopted.

V. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2018. Vice Chair Lee call for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of November 19, 2018. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded, there being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved.

VI. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF. Fire Chief Neves passed out copies of his monthly report for November 2018 and highlighted the following:

1. Fires. Fire Chief Neves mentioned during the month of November there were 11 structural fires. Fire Chief Neves highlighted a fire incident at the Waikiki Banyan and mentioned that this could have been another Marco Polo incident if it wasn't for sprinkler systems installed.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that hotels, mercantile, and business buildings have all been retrofitted and currently HFD are working to retrofit residential high rise occupancy.

Fire Chief Neves asked the Commission if there were any questions.

Commissioner Morton asked Fire Chief Neves how many fire fighters manning the trucks.

Fire Chief Neves indicated that there are 3 different manning levels. Manning level 1 are assigned. Currently there are 5 fire fighters assigned to an engine or ladder but usually there are 4 assigned to a truck 90% of the time.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that monthly reports are conducted and given to Chief Rico.

Commissioner Morton asked if vacancies are filled will it meet the department's goal of 5.

Fire Chief Neves answered, “The department would still be short”.

Hazardous Conditions.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 27 weather-related emergencies.

2. Equipment Status. Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that there were six frontline and two auxiliary apparatuses that were out of service and noted that relief trucks are always available.
3. Vacancies. Fire Chief Neves indicated that there are 114 vacancies within the department with 20 retirements this year.
4. Injuries- Report of Industrial Injury or Illness (ISWC). Fire Chief Neves went over the injury list with the Commission as well as the loss of time incidents.
5. Grievances. Fire Chief Neves went over the November grievance with the Commission and mentioned that there are 8 grievances in Step 1, 5 in Step 2, 3 that are closed and 24 pending grievances.

Fire Chief Neves gave a breakdown for the following: 3 grievances in Step 1, 1 grievance in Step 2, 3 closed grievances, and 16 pending grievances.

Chair Wataru walked into the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of November, HFD received 4 complimentary correspondences, and 2 complaints that were responded to. Details are in the monthly report.
2. Fire Chief Neves thanked the Commission for their attendance in promotion ceremony as well as their support within the department this past year.
3. Fire Chief Neves had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their section’s recent activities.

Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr.- Chief Camara went over the budget process with the Commission and compared FY19 budget of \$136,804,328.00 to its current asking price of \$140,596,544.00 with the largest ticket item going towards Rescue 3 which will cover Makapuu to Laie. Chief Camara indicated that this ticket item was denied last year but was added as a Council add. Chief Camara is hopeful that this ticket item will be approved and mentioned that

34.3% of the calls from the windward side and that the department has not had a rescue company since 1964.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 2 Council add's. The first being Rescue 3 and second, changing out all the portable radios to newer ones as they are equipped with updated features. Fire Chief Neves is hopeful for Council support on both ticketed items.

Commissioner Morton asked how the Commission can help.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that it's currently going through the City process and if there is a need for help the department will ask the Commission for its assistance.

Commissioner Nekota asked how much is the department asking for.

Chief Camara answered, "\$133,000,344.00" for manpower.

Chair Wataru asked if it was approved earlier.

Chief Camara mentioned that it became a Council add and approved and finalized by Council in FY19.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that it was never approved by the City administration.

Fire Chief Neves went over adding rescue with the Commission and the cost of radio installation which is going city wide.

Chair Wataru asked if the department will be able to communicate with HPD with the new radio installation.

Fire Chief Neves answered, "Yes" all radios will be interoperable which will enable the department to communicate with all first responders.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administrative Services. Chief Lawton discussed retirements within the department with the Commission.

Chief Lawton mentioned that there will be 20 retirements for December with a total of 33 retirements for this year compared to 78 retirements plus separations for a total of 90 last year and the department will be filling that vacant slot through the recruit process.

Chief Lawton mentioned that there are 2 process which on how the department will fill those vacancies.

Chief Lawton went over the standard process for recruiting FF1 and mentioned that written exams have been completed.

Chief Lawton went over a new process called FF2 recruit and a new written test will be provided by Department of Human Resources (DHR) by the end of January.

Chief Lawton mentioned how FF2 recruit class differs from FF1 recruit in that they come in with the 5 certificates. Chief Lawton indicated that FF1 will be earning their 5 certificated during the recruit process.

Chair Wataru asked if they will both graduate the same time.

Chief Lawton answered, “No” because they are starting at different times.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that both classes will be trained separately.

Commissioner Morton asked if the recruits who are coming in with the 5 certificates are the ones who have graduated from the fire science.

Fire Chief Neves answered, “Yes”.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Support Services. Chief Bratakos went over recruit class with the Commission and mentioned that FF1 class will have 40-50 recruits and FF2 will be determined on how many will be taking the test.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that there are 43 new fire fighters who are finishing up their probations.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the 105th class started in late September with 28 recruits and currently there are 23. Chief Bratakos mentioned that one person had resigned and 4 were release due to non-performance.

Chief Bratakos mentioned May 2019 will be the anticipated date for graduation.

Chair Wataru asked what was the number of recruits that the department started with.

Chief Bratakos answered, “28”.

Fire Chief Neves went over the old list with the Commission.

Commissioner Morton asked about CDL within the department.

Chief Bratakos explained that the department is not CDL but is equivalent to CDL. Chief Bratakos mentioned that the department gives them a basic driving skill.

Commissioner Morton asked when are they able to drive ladders to alarms.

Chief Bratakos mentioned when they pass their probation then they will be placed in pump apparatus driver operator and aerial class.

Chief Bratakos explained what training goes on in a pump apparatus driver operator and aerial class to the Commission.

Commissioner Morton asked if the department certifies them.

Chief Bratakos answered, "Yes".

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department will distribute certificates but it's not for driving pumpers.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the recruits will be brought back before their probation and they will be given another national certification for driving pumpers.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department follows the same rules and regulations of CDL but does not issue that but is allowed for first responders.

Commissioner Morton asked what happens if someone gets a CDL.

Chief Camara mentioned that there are guidelines that indicate that the department needs to follow the rules and regulations of the CDL guideline.

Chief Camara mentioned that random drug testing's conducted within the department.

Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos- Planning and Development. Chief Ramos went over how the incident reporting system helps support its budget process with the Commission.

Chief Ramos mentioned that it helps the department identify trends, fire activities and determine causes of incidents and deployment of resources.

Chief Ramos mentioned that it also helps with the decision making process for the different program that the department supports.

Chair Wataru asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chair Wataru wished the department warm holiday wishes.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 2 p.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business Commissioner Hong moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded that the Commission end its meeting. It was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

JAMES WATARU