

**The Board of Fire Commissioners
Portsmouth Fire Department**

Station 1
April 20, 2005

Portsmouth, NH
1900 hours

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order at 1905 hours and led Pledge of Allegiance. Along with Chairman Hughes, present were Commissioner Gamester and Commissioner Wentworth, Chief LeClaire, Assistant Chief Achilles, Captain Collins, Lieutenant Heinz, Firefighters: Gordon, Goodwin, Gallagher and Bettencourt. Absent was Deputy Chief Griswold.

II. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Motion, to accept the minutes of March 17, 2005, made by Commissioner Gamester, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

III. Reports:

A. Fire Chief's Reports:

Chief led brief discussion regarding the FY05 budget. Motion, to accept Chief's Reports 05-025 through 05-029, made by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Chairman Hughes, unanimous.

B. Other (to included internal dept. written communications): None.

IV. Old Business:

Chief LeClaire updated Commission on FY04 Homeland Grant – Technical/Confined Space Search & Rescue awarded for \$43K and the purchase of a cargo express trailer and various rescue equipment. Also spoke on the status of the new ladder truck that is currently in N. Attleboro and will be going to Raitt's Signs for lettering sometime during the first week of May 2005.

V. Presentations of Written Communications:

Autumn Mercadante, age 11 of Greenland, NH, donated four bags of stuffed animals to the department.

Motion, to accept the donation from Ms. Mercadante, made by Chairman Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimously.

Minutes from April 20, 2005 continued:

VI. New Business:

Firefighter John Goodwin was introduced to the Commission.

VII. Recognition of Groups of Individuals:

Assistant Chief Achilles read letter he received from the National Registry of EMS recognizing twenty-year registrant, Ff. Mark Bettencourt.

VIII. Public Hearings: None.

IX. Non-public Session:

Motion, to enter into Non-public Session at 1930 hours to discuss personnel items, made by Chairman Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

Motion, to come out of Non-public at 2003 hours, made by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Chief, motion made by Commissioner Gamester to hire a new firefighter/EMT to cover current long term vacancies, and to go above the 61 approved FD positions, seconded by Commissioner Wentworth, unanimous.

X. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 2004 hours made by Commissioner Wentworth, seconded by Commissioner Gamester, unanimous.

Richard Gamester, Clerk