

**CITY OF NASHUA
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023**

THE MEETING CAME TO ORDER AT 4:23 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Burgess
Paul Garant
Gary Lambert
Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
John Steere

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Chief Steve M. Buxton

STAFF NOT PRESENT:

Assistant Chief William B. Atkinson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Deputy Fire Chief Robert Barrows
Local 789 President Tom Wholey
Local 789 Steward at Large Julian Reed
City Attorney Dorothy Clarke

SPECIAL AGENDA

23 32 Budget Review

Chief Buxton discussed the following:

-) The proposed budget needs to be submitted before the next regular commission meeting.
-) The Mayor released a letter with some guidance to come in at a 3% increase.
 - o That doesn't work in our best interest.
-) The job as fire chief is to let the mayor know what we need to run the fire department.
-) Discussed handout with budget information

Motion by Commissioner Garant to accept Item 23 32 as presented and place on file and authorize the Chief to proceed with the budget submittal process.

Seconded by Commissioner Lambert

Vote: 5-yes

Motion Carries

23 33 Rules and Regulations

-) Commissioner Burgess said that everyone in the room probably has some information on the subject.
-) Commissioner Burgess asked Chief Buxton if there were other things he wanted to review in the Rules and Regulations as a whole.
-) Chief Buxton said they have a hiring policy change that will be bringing forward to the next meeting and some changes to the Grooming Policy.
-) Chief Buxton passed out the current and draft of Article 4, Grooming.
 - o Changes reviewed and discussed.
-) Attorney Clarke feels that the changes the chief is proposing are good and offers clarification.
-) Further direction followed providing Chief Buxton direction for additional adjustments within Article 4.

Motion by Commissioner Melizzi-Golja to accept the information presented by the chief regarding Article 4 - Grooming and will further adjust it at the next commissioner meeting.
Seconded by Commissioner Garant

Vote: 5-yes

Motion Carries

-) Commissioner Burgess discusses the tattoo rule/regulation violation by a member and ensuing discipline.
-) Commissioner Burgess suggested a conversation with everyone and then to get any feedback from Attorney Clarke.
-) President Wholey spoke to express Local 789 concerns.
-) Local Steward at Large Julian Reed spoke to support President Wholey and 789 concerns.
-) The tattoo discussion continued between the Board of Fire Commission, Local 789 President Wholey, Local 789 Steward at Large Julian Reed, Attorney Clarke, Deputy Fire Chief Robert Barrows and Chief Buxton.

DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING:

Regular Scheduled Board of Fire Commission Meeting
Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 5:30 pm
at 177 Lake Street, Classroom

Date, Time and Location of other Events

Nashua VFW Loyalty Day Ceremony, Nashua Senior Center
Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10:00 AM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Lambert to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM

Seconded by Commissioner Steere

Vote: 5-yes

Motion Carries