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**WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**WESTFIELD FIRE COMMISSION**  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 23, 2021



Fire Commissioner C. Lee Bennett called the meeting of the Westfield Fire Commission (hereinafter WFC) of August 23, 2021 to order.

Location: Little River Fire Station  
Community Room  
366 Little River Road  
Westfield, Massachusetts

Date: August 23, 2021

Time: 17:00 hours

**MINUTES TAKEN:**

Ms. Patricia Breton, Westfield Fire Department (hereinafter 'WFD') Office Manager

Chairman's announcement:

Westfield Fire Commissioner C. Lee Bennett in accordance with the Open Meeting Law Changes (Reference Memorandum dated June 18, 2010 'Open Meeting Law Changes'), from the Office of the City Solicitor, made the following announcement to all participants and attendees that the Westfield Fire Commission Regular Schedule meeting of August 23, 2021 is being audio recorded and if the Westfield Fire Commission meeting at any time goes into executive session all audio equipment will be turned off to include all recording devices of audio and video and any transmission of video and or audio..

Westfield Fire Commissioner C. Lee Bennett also made the following inquiry that if there is anyone making a video or audio recording of the meeting, please indicate this to the Chair. Mr. Peter Carrier of the Westfield Evening New will be recording.

**PRESENT IN ATTENDANCE:**

Westfield Fire Commissioner C. Lee Bennett, Westfield Fire Commissioner Jeffery Siegel, Fire Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli, Fire Chief Patrick Egloff, Captain Keith Supinski, Firefighter Travis Lucia and Firefighter Kyle Roy. Peter carrier of the Westfield Evening News. Candidates Nicholas Hope, Nathaniel Sindland, Timothy Gavrillov, JackIn O'Brien, Colin Burns and Collin Stevenson.

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett asked for a roll call.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett – present  
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel – present  
Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli – present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**READING OF THE RECORD OF:**

a. WFC Special Meeting Minutes April 5, 2021.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli made a motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2021.

Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel seconded the motion.

All in favor (3) Yes (0) No

Motion Passed

b. WFC Special Meeting Minutes June 1, 2021.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli made a motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel seconded the motion.

All in favor (3) Yes (0) No

Motion Passed

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No public participation.

**ROUTINE BUSINESS:**

a. Introduction

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett explained that we are here for the hiring process. She explained that we have some business to do first. She explained to the Candidates that

she would request they leave the room as a courtesy to the other candidates. All questions will be the same.

### **REPORTS FROM THE WFD & WFC:**

No letters or communications to report.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) WFD Covid -19 Commendation Plaque status update for the Westfield Fire personnel both past and present who worked through the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The plaque was present at the Little River Station, Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli did a phenomenal job on putting this together. There will be names added to the back for those of recognition, this will be permanent for historical recognition. Commissioner Bennett suggested this be placed at Head Quarters, so that everyone and the public can see it.

- b) Update on new hires.

Tyler Garfield and Katherine Spring have both gone through their orientation. They rode as third person on the Ambulance for 30 calls each and now they are both on their respective groups. Katherine Spring is on C group under Deputy Eric Bishop, Tyler Garfield is on D group with Deputy Patrick Kane Jr. They will receive performance evaluations at 3 months, 6 months and 10 months.

- c) Update on Annual Report.

A copy was sent to the Chair of the Commission, it should be completely done by Octobers meeting.

- d) Update on Rules and Regulations.

The Chief and the Deputies are working to tie these with the standard operating guidelines. The Law Department and Personnel would like to review this before it goes to the Commission. This is still a work in progress.

- e) Two Resignations – Michael Albert, Richard Paul, a vote to accept.

Both have issued letters of resignation.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to accept both resignations for Michael Albert and Richard Paul.

Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel made the motion to accept both resignations for Michael Albert and Richard Paul.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli second the motion.

All in favor (3) Yes (0) No

Motion Passed

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Westfield Fire Department 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 9/11 Ceremony.

Chief Egloff announced that this will be the 20<sup>th</sup> year, and it will be on a Saturday. He is hoping to have more of the public show up this year. The Chief would like to close the road off for the Ceremony. The traffic going by makes it hard to hear even though we do use a speaker system, this is not conducive to a ceremony it should be.

Captain Keith Supinski stated he spoke to Chaplin Father Joe and he would love to be part of this ceremony. Whatever he can do to help.

2. Schedule a Special Commission Meeting to hear Grievance #7192021.

Commissioner Lee Bennett asked the Chief to coordinate a date with all parties.

3. Interview six candidates for five positions, discuss and potentially vote to conditionally hire to the position of: Full Time Firefighter/EMT effective start date: Per Fire Chief, pending successful completion of all aspects of the Conditional offer of employment.

- A. Nicholis Hope
- B. Nathaniel Sindland
- C. Timothy Gavrillov
- D. Jacklyn O'Brien
- E. Colin Burns
- F. Collin Stevenson

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett explained the procedure to all candidates.

They will be interviewed in order of the list above. All questions will be the same, so you are asked to wait outside for fairness to the other candidates.

Chief Egloff explained to the Commission that he did call for a paramedic list about three weeks ago, and no one came in to sign. This is the reason we are hiring basics today. The requisition was signed by the Mayor, Personnel and Audit to hire five tonight.

Commissioner Siegal asked why no one signed. Chief explained there were candidates on the list, but they were all east of Worcester.

The Commission interviewed six candidates in order as the list above.

Each of the candidates were asked to give an opening statement and a closing statement. They were each asked the same six questions.

All Candidates came back into the room.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment for the number 1 position to **Nicholis Hope**. These conditions include: successfully passing the following: a Full Fire Department Physical, the MA Human Resource Division's Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending and successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel made the motion.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

### **Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

### **Motion Passed**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment for the number 2 position to **Nathaniel Sindland**. These conditions include: successfully passing the following: a Full Fire Department Physical, the MA Human Resource Division's Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending and successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel made the motion.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

### **Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

### **Motion Passed**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment for the number 3 position to Timothy Garvilov. These conditions include: successfully passing the following: a Full Fire Department Physical, the MA Human Resource Division's Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending and successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel made the motion.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

**Motion Passed**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment for the number 4 position to Jacklyn O'Brien. These conditions include: successfully passing the following: a Full Fire Department Physical, the MA Human Resource Division's Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending and successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel made the motion.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

**Motion Passed**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment for the number **5** position to **Colin Burns**. These conditions include: successfully passing the following: a Full Fire Department Physical, the MA Human Resource Division’s Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending and successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Jeffery Siegel made the motion.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

**Motion Passed**

Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel made a motion to be able to give the Chair of the Commission the opportunity to work with the Fire Chief in the event another position opens, for any reason what so ever in the next 28 months, to allow Collin Stevenson to be given an offer of employment at that time. However, that would be an conditional offer even at that time which would successfully passing the full Fire Department Physical, MA Human Resource Division Physical Abilities Test, a Psychological evaluation, a background check, completing your certification to the Paramedic EMT Level within 28 months of hire, attending as successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli seconded the motion.

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli	YES
Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel	YES
Commissioner C. Lee Bennett	YES

YES (3)      NO (0)

**Motion Passed**

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett wished them all the best of luck.

Commissioner C. Lee Bennett ascertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Jeffrey Siegel made a motion to adjourn.

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Commissioner Albert Masciadrelli I seconded the motion.

All in favor (3) Yes (0) No

**Motion Passed**

Time: 18:25 hours

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Lee Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

C. Lee Bennett, Chair  
Westfield Fire Commission  
Pab