

SOMERSET FIRE/RESCUE COMMISSION
Minutes of the Saturday, May 13, 2006 Special Meeting

Call to Order: Chairperson Roy called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. at the Fire Hall.

Roll Call: Present - Shane Demulling, Rita Lawson, Bartt Palmer, Tom Roy, and Assistant Chief Jason Crotty. Absent - Gerry Mullenberg. Also attending - Captains Travis Belisle and Jeff Kulibert.

Public Input: Belisle noted the department's need for DSL and plan to hire Amy Parnell to set it up soon. A wireless connection could be installed for sharing the DSL with the Town.

New Business: Appoint Fire Chief to replace Bruno Reed

The Commission received the May 8, 2006 letter from Bruno Reed resigning from the Fire Chief position and from membership in the department. Assistant Chief Crotty reported they had urged Reed to continue as a member and/or to return in the future.

The officers and commissioners discussed the many issues in the situation, including ways to work together better and have better communication, such as the commission sending meeting minutes to the department in time for the department's monthly meetings.

Commissioners emphasized members should call the police or the Sheriff's department if former chief Parnell started hanging around the department.

The officers said the budget was tight and they might need help from the Town and Village to pay off the truck loan during the next three years. Demulling urged the officers to keep safety questions at the top of their spending decisions even with the tight budget.

Crotty and Kulibert stated they were not interested in becoming chief but would do everything they could for the department. *Motion by Palmer, second by Demulling to lift Travis Belisle's suspension from eligibility for all officer positions. Motion by Palmer, second by Demulling, after discussion with the officers, to appoint Travis Belisle as long as he conducts himself to the satisfaction of the Commission to fill the fire chief term vacated by Bruno Reed.* Swearing-in will be at the regular commission meeting Monday, May 22 and there will be a performance review in three months.

Motion by Palmer, second by Lawson to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita Lawson, Secretary