

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Friday, August 9, 2013, 2:00 p.m.

City Hall, 45 Lyon Terrace, Wheeler A and B, Bridgeport, CT 06604

MINUTES

Commissioner T. Walter Plumber called the August 9, 2013 special meeting of the Civil Service Commission to order at 2:07 p.m. Present were Commissioners McBride and Rodgers, Personnel Director David Dunn, Clerk to the Commission Deborah Brelsford, Examiner Lisa Kollman, City Attorney Mark Anastasi, and Fire Union President Robert Whitbread. It is noted that Commissioners Guedes and Correa were not in attendance.

1. Examiner's Report – Fire Lieutenant Exam #2322

The Commission was asked to approve the Examiner's Report for the Fire Lieutenant Exam #2322 and certify the employment list. Mr. Dunn referred the Commissioners to the report behind tab 1 of their binders. He noted that there were clerical errors with the scoring and stated that Ms. Kollman could add comments. He explained that errors were discovered and corrected during the 30 day review period. He said that it was disappointing and embarrassing to the Office of the Civil Service Commission, however, there was a transcription error and that information received from Resource Management Associates, the examination company, had been entered incorrectly by the Civil Service staff. This resulted in the original #3 ranked candidate now being ranked as #6.

There was an additional snafu in that 2 errors were discovered in May after the written exam was corrected and adjusted and fixed ahead of time; however, the testing company had not added this in correctly. This had affected candidates ranked #7 and #5 on the list. Mr. Dunn added that the list is correct and that he has no doubts about the list. He further stated that the Office of the Civil Service Commission has adopted a new review process and that when the scores come back from the exam company the data entry will be triple-checked.

Commissioner Plummer asked if the candidates had been notified and Mr. Dunn replied that they had been invited to the Civil Service office and that both Ms. Kollman and he had spoken with the lawyer from the Merit Employment Group. Mr. Dunn added that errors were discovered when they should have been discovered and Bishop Plummer stated that the correction was very transparent.

Mr. Dunn said that 1 candidate had requested to be on the agenda however he was not currently present. On a motion made by Commissioner Rodgers and seconded by Commissioner McBride the Commission unanimously approved and certified the Examiner's Report for the Fire Lieutenant Exam #2322. City Attorney Mark Anastasi said he wanted to reinforce something that Mr. Dunn had stated in that this was an excellent example of the 30 day appeal period doing what it was intended to do.

2. Examiner's Report – Fire Pumper Engineer Exam #2323

The Commission was asked to approve the Examiner's Report for the Fire Pumper Engineer Exam #2323 and certify the employment list. Mr. Dunn stated that this was the 1st time in the history of the testing for Fire department promotional examinations that there were no appeals and that he was very happy about this. He publicly thanked Ms. Kollman and Ms. Brelsford for the hard work they did on the exam and also acknowledged Assistant Chief John Mazza and the Fire Training Division for all the setting up that he and his staff did to help make the exam successful.

Mr. Dunn added that Firefighter Sheilyan Vega, a Hispanic female, ranked #1 on the list and that this was also another 1st in the history of the department to have a Hispanic female score the highest.

On a motion made by Commissioner McBride and seconded by Commissioner Rodgers, the Commission unanimously approved the Examiner's Report for the Fire Pumper Engineer Exam #2323 and certified the employment list.

Mr. Dunn also thanked the union and the City for the agreement to appoint the 6th Fire Lieutenant and the City Labor Relations office for making this effort. Commissioner Plummer asked Chief Brian Rooney if he wanted to speak and the Chief thanked the Personnel Director for his office handling the errors with transparency and added that he was very happy that the Pumper Engineer exam had no appeals and added that this was the first time this happened. The Chief also thanked the Commission very much for approving both employment lists.

Commissioner Plummer asked Mr. Whitbread if he wanted to speak and he replied that he did not. Commissioner Plummer then asked if the legal department wanted to speak and City Attorney Mark Anastasi replied that he did not.

On a motion made by Commissioner McBride and seconded by Commissioner Rodgers the August 9, 2013 special meeting of the Civil Service Commission was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.