



City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

March 19, 2025

Minutes

A meeting of the City of West Haven Fire Department, Allingtown was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 355 Main Street, West Haven.

Present were Commissioners Iris Diaz, Troy Tappin, Andrea Palumbo and Alternate Commissioner Frederick Brown. Also present was Fire Marshal Flood and Chief Terenzio. Commissioner Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Alternate Commissioner Brown inquired with Chief Terenzio as to his status with the Commission. The Chief responded that Mr. Dorsi had shared with him his status as an alternate commissioner and his duties and responsibilities and it was shared with the Commission.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Administrative Assistant DeVellis called the roll and declared a quorum.
3. Approval of February 11, 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Palumbo made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Commissioner Tappin.
4. Public Session: John Ordazzo gave an update on Troop/Pack 821

Mr. Ordazzo stated that Brian Blake is the new Assistant Scoutmaster. He is the history teacher at Betsy Ross Magnet School in New Haven. Currently there are six scouts in the troop. They also have a new Cub Master and are working on recruiting new members. The pack currently only has two members. The district approved the re-charter due to the ongoing recruitment.

5. Finance: Reviewed and accepted the list of processed Invoices/Revenue.
6. Communications: None
7. Report of Chief: Chief Terenzio gave a written and oral report for the month of February which will be kept on file.

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Chief Terenzio stated that the top five applicants for the Deputy Chief position has been narrowed down to three candidates. Interviews were conducted with himself and F.M. Flood. The mayor and the chief will be meeting with the candidates next week. Interviews with the commission will take place shortly after.

Recruit FF P. FungFook has successfully begun the CFA spring session.

Firefighter Joseph DeGrand has received his certification to perform as a Code Enforcement Inspector from the State of CT. He will join the CES team. Chief Terenzio stated that himself, FM Flood and Deputy FM Grodzicki were interviewed by CT Public Radio for the press release of the program. They presented an overview of the plan.

Equipment/Apparatus:

RI: Out of service. The refurbishment is progressing with the installation of wiring and lights.

E2: Repaired the discharge valve and leak in the booster tank. Back in service today.

Injuries: FF. C. Shore filed a First Report of Injury after injuring his knee on an EMS call. No time was lost.

Minor Park: The Annex floor was poured and the plumbing is complete. Awaiting UI to hook up power.

The new gear extractor has been shipped from the supplier. New eye wash devices have been installed at both stations to remain OSHA compliant.

Admiral Station: The Administrative offices have been painted and new carpeting has been installed. New furniture will be delivered within the next few weeks.

Two volunteer bunkie members have been suspended for unprofessional behavior resulting in damage to the wall on the second floor. Chief Terenzio stated that there is no supervision and it is a liability for the department.

Budget FY 25-26 progress: The budget has been submitted and awaiting approval from the members. There has been a 58% increase in the grand list for both the real estate and personal property assessments. The Mil rate will drop to 8.15.

The department, along with the other two fire districts, will be installing a telemetric accident-avoidance system in personnel vehicles and the trucks.

Grants Progress –

Safer Grant - Chief Terenzio stated that he has begun preparation in anticipation of the ESCI report findings.

Community Development Block Grant - The city has issued a resolution for the CES targeted hazard program. Numerous city council members are supporting another Community Development Grant application which has been submitted for next year.

ESCI Feasibility study - A site visit will take place next week. All of the data has been provided.

8. Report of Fire Marshal:

FM Flood stated that he has been working with Deputy FM Grodzicki on the abatement process in the district. They are starting to plan for the implementation of the CES program.

FM Flood has begun organizing and cleaning up the plans at the Admiral station. He is hoping to eventually go paperless. The website is being redone for submitting applications. The IT department is working on installing an on-line credit card payment system.

FM Flood has developed a plan along with the other two districts to minimally increase the fees for inspections/plan reviews. The fees have not been increased since 2009. City Council will need to approve.

FM Flood is getting acclimated with the schools. He has been doing walkthroughs and scheduling fire drills and dorm inspections.

9. Old Business: None

10. New Business: AVFA Bunkie Program

Chief Terenzio stated he is concerned about the liability of not having the students supervised at the Admiral Station. The altercation that resulted in significantly damaging the wall has been repaired by the department. No one was injured.

The smell of gas was the result of the pilot light being left on in the kitchen for several hours. Chief Terenzio said he cannot be here 24 hours. There is supposed to be a program liaison assigned to be in charge and be here all the time.

Security has been an issue. The front door has been found on occasion to be propped open. A recent viewing of our security cameras showed a volunteer enter the second floor around 9:00 p.m. He was roaming around for several minutes and looking into the offices. He was seen removing a file from the conference room that has since been returned. The office renovation has resulted in files stored temporary in the conference room. Corporate council advised that the second floor needs to be secured and restrict access. Chief Terenzio would like to know why this person was on the second floor and what he was looking for. The city is installing card readers on all municipal buildings. The AVFA is provided access, but they cannot be roaming around the second floor. The other issue is with the parking. Chief Terenzio will be meeting with the volunteer chief to discuss the above issues.

11. Executive Session: None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Palumbo at 7:13 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner Tappin.

Minutes recorded by Administrative Assistant Melissa DeVellis.

