



City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

August 8th, 2023

Minutes

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A meeting of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown was held on Tuesday August 8, 2023.

Present were Commissioners Iris Diaz, Troy Tappin, Andrea Palumbo and Frederick Brown. Also present were Chief Terenzio and Deputy Chief Esposito.

Commissioner Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Administrative Assistant DeVellis called the roll and declared a quorum.

3. Approval of June 13, 2023 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Brown questioned why his comments about the hiring of a new candidate were not in the minutes.

Chief Terenzio explained that the comments made should have taken place during Executive Session.

Commissioner Palumbo made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Commissioner Tappin.

4. Public Session:

None

5. Finance: Reviewed and accepted the list of processed invoices for July.

6. Communications:

Received a \$200.00 Grant from the Firefighters Charitable Foundation.

7. Report of the Chief: Chief Terenzio gave a verbal and written report for July which will be kept on file.

Chief Terenzio was pleased to announce that a new recruit candidate will be attending the upcoming Fall Fire Academy class in late August. Another candidate was also interviewed prior to tonight's meeting.

A new phone system was installed at both stations.

Chief Terenzio stated that the new fire station infrastructure funding is moving forward through MARB for approval. The MARB is doing a feasibility study for all three districts before approval of the requested ARPA funding. The ARPA funding would be used for an annex structure at the Minor Park Station for vehicle and equipment/gear storage. The remaining funding would be used toward up front property acquisition costs. Drawings will be provided at the next BOC meeting. Commissioner Brown stated he would like the Board to approve the funding to present to the MARB. Commissioner Palumbo responded that the BOC did not need to approve the funding. The MARB approves the funding. Commissioner Brown said he agrees with building the Annex but said he doesn't want things to go from the Chief's office directly to the MARB. Chief Terenzio stated that nothing goes from his office that is beyond his ability to approve of the jurisdiction that the Board allows him. Chief Terenzio asked Commissioner Brown to please provide his email address to the Department so he can receive communications. Commissioner Brown asked Chief Terenzio to call him. Chief Terenzio explained that he does not have time to call everyone and he provides all the necessary information to the BOC via email. Commissioner Palumbo asked Commissioner Brown to apologize to the Chief. Commissioner Brown said he wants things done properly. Commissioner Diaz said they have been involved in all the communications the Chief sends out and that Commissioner Brown seemed agitated and to express himself in a nice manner.

8. Report of the Deputy Chief/Fire Marshall: Deputy Chief Esposito gave a written and verbal report for July which will be kept on file.

Deputy FM Esposito explained the Departments revenue for plan reviews/inspections.

The fire hydrants in Allingtown were recently painted by all shifts.

It was discovered that a fire hydrant at Peabody and Boston Post Road was damaged and needs to be fully replaced.

Deputy FM Esposito stated that E3 engine light was on and out for repair at Cummins in Rocky Hill but is under warranty.

E8 air compressor is being repaired.

E2 steering issues is out for repair at E.J. Boughton in N. Branford.

9. Old Business:

New Firehouse Property/Library –

Awaiting MARB funding, discussed in earlier report.

Chief Terenzio stated that efforts to acquire the property at 668 Orange Avenue through foreclosure from unpaid back taxes continue to evolve. A study needs to be done to test the contaminants in the soil. There is also a lien on the property that needs to be removed for the land to be released for sale. Chief Terenzio said there is still interest in the land across from U.N.H. as a second option. The need still remains to obtain adjacent U.N.H. property for this second option to work.

Commissioner Brown had concerns about spending the ARPA funding in time. Deputy FM Esposito stated that the deadline is December 2024. Commissioner Brown asked about the cost of the annex building. Chief Terenzio gave an estimate of \$600,000.00.

Chief Terenzio and Deputy FM Esposito met with members of the West Haven Sub-Committee. They toured the Minor Park Station to review requests to approve the ARPA funding expenditures. The project request was well received. The Sub-Committee also toured the other two fire districts.

Commissioner Brown inquired about the office hours and his phone calls not being answered. Chief Terenzio explained that he can leave a voice mail and his call will be returned.

Commissioner Brown had concerns over the Juneteenth event. He said he was at the event and Captain Panza mentioned streets being closed and they weren't notified. DC Esposito stated that Captain Cameron was the Captain on duty and we weren't notified until late Thursday. Nothing was properly drawn up. Commissioner Brown said the Captain should have been notified. Chief Terenzio said if the Captain had an issue with not knowing which streets were closed then he should follow his chain of command and not have expressed his concern at the Commission level before checking with the Chief's. Chief Terenzio stated that he would follow up with Captain Panza to be sure he understands the policy as per Commissioner Brown's insinuation.

10. New Business:

Hiring a Firefighter/Paramedic – interview conducted prior to BOC meeting

11. A motion was made to close the regular session at 7:35 pm and go into Executive Session by Commissioner Palumbo; seconded by Commissioner Tappin, and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to close the Executive Session at 8:10 pm and resume a regular session by Commissioner Palumbo; seconded by Commissioner Tappin and approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Diaz at 8:10 pm; seconded by Commissioner Palumbo.

All minutes are subject to the final approval of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown Commissioners.

Minutes recorded by Administrative Assistant Melissa DeVellis.