

CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ALLINGTOWN  
September 1, 2020  
Minutes

A Meeting of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

Present were Commissioners Iris Diaz, Frederick Brown, and Troy Tappin. Also present was Deputy Chief Esposito. Commissioner Cori Nunley came in late after a prior commitment.

Commissioner Diaz called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Business Manager Brooks called the roll and declared a quorum. Absent were Commissioners Palumbo, Sikorski and Corcoran.

3. Approval of August 5, 2020 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the August 5, 2020 meeting minutes with the correction of the spelling of Bruneau, seconded by Commissioner Tappin and approved unanimously.

4. Public Session NONE

Commissioner Diaz stated that if we have to continue holding our meetings practicing social distancing then we would accept any comments or questions from the public. They can email them to us.

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

Business Manager Brooks stated that back in March she attended a meeting with Retiree John Perry, Retiree John Amendola and Beth Sabo. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the retirees insurance. It was discussed that if the retirees that have reached the age of 65, and future retirees that reach the age of 65 would get Medicare Part B (Cost \$144.60 per month) along with Medicare Part A, having the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown reimburse the costs of Part B this could be a large savings to the department. They would also have a supplemental insurance through the city whether it would continue to be the one they are on now or possibly be the city's Part F. Business Manager Brooks had done a study of this possibility and it clearly showed a savings. Beth Sabo had asked for a bit of additional information that was supplied. Business Manager Brooks went on to say that she had been contacted by Retiree John Amendola asking where we are with this decision. Business Manager Brooks stated that she would bring it to the Board and see what they want to do. A brief discussion followed. Commissioner Diaz suggested that we set up another meeting with Beth Sabo to make a decision on this matter.

Acting Chief Esposito explained why the Lifepaks are starting to be replaced and the cost involved. They are fast approaching their life expectancy of ten years old. We cannot use them when they reach this age, they have to be replaced. We do have a grant out there for some new ones but we are not sure if we will be getting that grant. We started by replacing three of the oldest ones and will have to continue this process within the next couple of fiscal years to get them all replaced and up to standards.

6. Communications: NONE

7. Report of the Chief: Acting Chief Esposito gave verbal and written reports for August which will be kept on file.
8. Report of Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal: Deputy Chief Esposito gave verbal and written reports for August. Written reports will be kept on file.
9. Old Business: Parkview Commons Project-Acting Chief Esposito said that the building is complete. Students were moving in last week.

Headquarters Issues- Acting Chief Esposito stated that nothing has changed.

Chief's Position: Commissioner Diaz explained that as of today we have four applications. Debbie has sent them letters acknowledging that we have received their application and they would be notified when the interviewing process has been scheduled. Commissioner Diaz explained that she had received a few emails from the city with different suggestions on the hiring of a Chief. I have responded to them and would like to move forward. I have invited Mayor Nancy Rossi and Councilwoman Robbin Hamilton to sit in on the interview process. I'm asking that the board make some time to come to the station to review the applications that are being kept locked in a safe place. If you have any questions please note them for the interviews. After the holiday weekend we will set up a time to start the interview process.

Grants-Acting Chief Esposito explained that we were awarded the FEMA Grant for the truck but we still do not have the results of the air pak grant. We have had the washer and dryer installed from that grant. Whatever monies are left will be used to buy detergent. We also received 30K from the CDA grant to help pay the cost of the fire house study. There was a press release with Senator Blumenthal. He has always backed the fire departments. The board thanked Acting Chief Esposito for all his work and time that was involved in getting these grants. They also extended thanks to all the other s who was involved, Doug Coulter, Allingtown Volunteer Chief Carew, Retired Chief Massaro and Business Manager Brooks.

Grade C Test-Acting Chief Esposito explained that all the candidates were notified of their written test scores on 8/8/2020 by email. The oral interview was conducted on 8/11/2020 with the top five candidates from the written exam invited. Candidate #4 declined on 8/10/2020. An offer of employment was given to the top candidate. He has passed all the requirements and starts the CFA on 9/8/2020.

Minor Park Chimney-acting Chief Esposito stated that they would honor the prices that were submitted earlier and he will contact the local one to do the job.

Firehouse Study-Acting Chief Esposito stated that we have received four RFQ's for the firehouse feasibility study. He has reviewed them and forwarded his comments and recommendations to Corporation Council. The board reviewed the RFQ's and the Acting Chief's comments. After a brief discussion Commissioner Brown made a motion to accept the Chief's recommendations to hire Mitchell Associates Architects, PLLC to do the firehouse feasibility study, seconded by Commissioner Diaz and approved unanimously.

10. New Business: Commissioner Diaz explained that there are two vacant positions on the Pension Trust. She asked if Commissioner Nunley would be interested in serving on the pension trust. Commissioner Nunley expressed that she would like to serve on the pension trust. She accepted the invitation. Commissioner Diaz asked Commissioner

Tappin if would be interested in serving on the pension trust. Commissioner Tappin stated that he would pass at this time. Brief discussion followed and Commissioner Diaz was going to give Commissioner Sikorski a call to ask him. He was on the pension trust previously and does have some knowledge of the pension.

Acting Chief Esposito stated that there is not going to be a regular 911 ceremony this year due to the pandemic. There is going to be a virtual ceremony that was being taped tomorrow so it can air on 9/11.

Acting Chief Esposito presented an accommodation certificate and letter that will be handed out in the near future.

A motion was presented to close Regular Session at 8:33 p.m. and go into Executive Session by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Nunley and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to close Executive Session and return into Regular Session at 8:55 pm. by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Diaz and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to adjourn by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Tappin and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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

Minutes recorded by Business Manager Brooks