

# City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

## COMMISSIONERS

John Panza, Chair  
Robert Lathrop, Vice Chair  
Iris Diaz  
Aaron Haley  
Andrea Palumbo  
Frederick Brown, Alternate  
Robert Pimer, Alternate



Michael T. Esposito  
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal  
mesposito@cityofwesthavenfd.org

Budget Workshop  
CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ALLINGTOWN  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
March 19, 2019 at 6:30 pm.  
City Hall  
Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
355 Main Street, West Haven, CT 06516

## AGENDA

1. Review Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

X  
2019 MAR 18 AM 9:58

20 ADMIRAL STREET PO BOX 26095 WEST HAVEN CT 06516-0960 TEL (203) 933-2541 FAX (203) 933-5419

Install, Maintain and Use Smoke Detectors

# City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

## COMMISSIONERS

John Panza, Chair  
Robert Lathrop, Vice Chair  
Iris Diaz  
Aaron Haley  
Andrea Palumbo  
Frederick Brown, Alternate  
Robert Pimer, Alternate



Michael T. Esposito  
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal  
mesposito@cityofwesthavenfd.org

Regular Meeting

## CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE COMMISSIONERS ALLINGTOWN

Board of Fire Commissioners

April 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

City Hall

Conference Room, 3rd Floor

355 Main Street, West Haven, CT

## AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Swearing In of new Firefighter Michael Pastir
4. Approval of March 5, 2019 meeting minutes.
5. Public Session
6. Finance  
Invoices
7. Communications
8. Report of Chief
9. Report of Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal
10. Old Business  
Parkview Commons Project  
Headquarters Roof  
Chief's Position  
Headquarters – Exterior repair  
Discussion and vote on proposed bylaws  
Parking Situation Admiral Street  
Budget FY 2019-2020

X

RECEIVED  
TOWN AND CITY CLERK  
OF WEST HAVEN  
2019 APR -1 PM 3:17



# City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

11. New Business

12. Elections of Officers

13. Executive Session.

Vacation and Sick Time  
Personnel Issues

CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ALLINGTOWN  
April 2, 2019  
Minutes

A Meeting of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown was held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT.

Present were Commissioners John Panza, Iris Diaz, Andrea Palumbo, Robert Lathrop, Aaron Haley and Frederick Brown. Also present was Deputy Chief Esposito.

Commissioner Panza called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call  
Business Manager Brooks called the roll and declared a quorum. Commissioners Haley and Pimer were absent. Commissioner Brown would sit in for Commissioner Haley. Commissioner Haley came in late.
3. Swearing In of New Firefighter Michael Pastir  
Commissioner Lathrop swore in new firefighter Michael Pastir.
4. Approval of March 5, 2019 meeting minutes.  
Commissioner Diaz made a motion to approve the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Lathrop and approved unanimously.
5. Public Session

Teddy Brown of 56 Highview Avenue, West Haven, CT asked why are we having trouble finding firemen of color? Commissioner Panza replied that the past practice of this department is we hire from a list. Ted asked how old is the list? Commissioner Panza replied that it's about a year and a half old. Ted asked how many years has it been since we had people that represent the people of Allingtown. Commissioner Panza responded that he thought the last guy was Liggins. Ted said he wanted to know why we haven't hired someone to fit the population of Allingtown. We have other people in Allingtown besides white males. Commissioner Panza replied because we go off the list. Ted stated that he thought over the years we have only hire two people of color. Acting Chief Esposito replied three. Ted asked, "What's the problem". Commissioner Panza responded that I don't think it's our problem. It's who applies and where they rank on the test. Ted asked don't you question things like that? Commissioner Panza replied that they did question the list. There was some talk of keeping it shorter than three years and maybe giving some points for people who live in West Haven but that's all talk right now. We have to wait for this list to expire. More discussion followed on the hiring practices and how to maybe go out and recruit more people of color. Commissioner Panza stated that the Acting Chief had told him that three women had applied. Ted said he told me that there were seven African Americans on the list. Acting Chief Esposito responded that he may have said several. We don't go by race, we have to go by the test scores. Commissioner Panza replied that he does not know how many are on the list because they do not tell us. Sean asked well how does he know. Commissioner Panza replied that he must have seen them on the day of the test. We don't put the race on the application. As I said before Mr. Brown we go by the test scores. Commissioner Palumbo reiterated that also. She also added that I think that would be racist to put the race on the application. I don't think we can do that. Acting Chief Esposito explained that the city of Bridgeport has hired men of different color but they run their test the same way we do. They go by the scores and start at the top of the list. I have it right here if you would like to

RECEIVED  
 TOWN AUDITOR CLERK  
 OF WEST HAVEN  
 2019 APR 12 PM 2:34

look at it. More discussion followed about the lack of color on the department. Ted asked about the by-laws. Commissioner Panza responded that this is just a start. We take baby steps. Just this took about a year to do. Ted asked if the board has a treasurer. Commissioner Panza replied that the board has only the three positions, no treasurer. Business Manager Brooks spoke and said that that was her job and she does give reports to the board. Ted replied that he knows what you do. I'm asking if there is a treasure on the board. Commissioner Panza That we do not. Commissioner Diaz stated that it all goes through city hall. Commissioner Palumbo added that we don't sign checks. It all goes to city hall. Commissioner Lathrop added that we were taken over by the city, they took over the finances. Ted asked so who do I pay my taxes to. Commissioner Diaz replied to the city of West Haven. She explained that she understands your frustration. We feel the same over many things that come under the umbrella of the city. You have voiced many things at the past meetings about us having no voice. We are trying to work with the city so we can meet at a happy medium; but until then our hands are tied with certain things. I understand what you are saying. I'm a taxpayer as well and as you, I get frustrated with many things as well. I'm just sharing with you that I appreciate your frustration but at the moment we are trying to move forward. Not that we don't care but there are blockers and there are things that we need to put in place to make a movement. More discussion followed about the board functioning as a whole.

Sean Brown of 56 Highview Avenue, West Haven, CT stated that last month the meeting got a little out of hand to me. I don't think the board should allow it. Politicians come in this room. I think someone should stop that. They come in this room to create their own agenda. It's an embarrassment to the board. You are not allowed to go to council and be political. You are not supposed to do that. It was highly political and it was embarrassing to see that; even though you're not a board recognized in the city. You keep saying you are trying to be. You need to cut the politician from coming in here and trying to sell themselves. This hiring is not about passing tests. This goes beyond that. This is about the money you get from the state to advertise in the minority community. You get that money and is it going into the minority type of media. Is it going to 94.3 radio station which is predominately black? 93.7 is a Spanish station. These people have a right to know, you have to reach out to them. You are given those funds from the state and you are going to keep giving them. That's what you need to find out. Are you spending that money wisely? Are you spending it in these minority communities so they have the right to come and take the test? You have to distribute the information out to these people. It's about the funds that you get from the state. I know you do. Radio stations know you do. Talk to Jim O'Brien, because he does it all the time with me. He reaches out to me and I reach out to the black community so they can take these tests. I've been to two of these tests. I even sat in to monitor one. I saw women, I saw Spanish and I saw black. That's what makes up Allingtown. You have to reach out. Equal Opportunity Employment. Commissioner Panza responded that we have to look into that and as I said before there has been discussion on how we can do things in the future. I don't know if it's legal to give bonus points to minorities. It's a good question. I have no problem with hiring any minority if they ranked on the list. We will look at that and make sure we don't discriminate against anyone.

6. Finance: list of processed invoices for March was reviewed and accepted.
7. Communications : None.
8. Report of the Chief: Acting Chief Esposito gave verbal and written reports for March which will be kept on file.
9. Report of Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal: Deputy Chief Esposito gave written reports for March. Written reports will be kept on file.
10. Old Business:

Parkview Commons Project-Acting Chief Esposito explained that they will be bringing in equipment and starting next week.

Headquarters Exterior Repair and Roof- Acting Chief Esposito said that he had a meeting with Tom McCarthy. He showed him the front of the building and explained about the roof problem. Tom asked him to get three bids for the exterior masonry on the front of the building. He also stated that he would get a letter to the board explaining the repair process.

Chief's Position – Commissioner Panza explained that there is nothing to report at this time.

Discussion and vote on proposed by laws- Commissioner Panza asked the board to review the updated copy. There were one typo and the Order of Business needed to be corrected. Brief discussion followed. Commissioner Palumbo made a motion to approve the By-Laws with the corrections and vote to put them in effect. The changes were a correction under Officers, Personnel, and Their Duties #5, the word deep should be keep. The other correction is under Order of Business, the list of items for regular meetings should be as follows:

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Call to Order
- c. Roll Call
- d. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes
- e. Public Session
- f. New Business
- g. Old Business
- h. Communications and Finance
- i. Staff Reports
- j. Miscellaneous
- k. Executive Session
- l. Adjournment

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lathrop. A roll call vote was cast as follows: Commissioner Panza-Yes, Commissioner Palumbo-Yes, Commissioner Lathrop-Yes, Commissioner Haley-Yes and Commissioner Diaz-Abstain.

Parking Situation Admiral Street- Acting Chief Esposito explained that it's only going to get worse when the construction starts next week.

Budget FY 2019-2020 – Business Manager Brooks explained that we had heard from the Mayor's office and were asked to meet with the Mayor to go over a few line items. There were some changes made but the Mill rate will stay at 14.2. The board would like to have monthly budget reports.

#### 11. New Business:

Acting Chief Esposito gave an update on the present hiring list. He gave a copy of the requested documentation including the list to the board.

#### 12. Election of Officers

Commissioner Haley nominated Commissioner Panza for the office of Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Palumbo. Commissioner Panza accepted the nomination. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Panza-Yes, Commissioner Diaz-Yes, Commissioner Haley-Yes, Commissioner Lathrop-Yes and Commissioner Palumbo-Yes.

Commissioner Haley nominated Commissioner Diaz as Vice Chairmen, seconded by Commissioner Diaz. Commissioner Diaz accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Panza nominated Commissioner Lathrop for Vice Chairmen, seconded by Commissioner Lathrop. Commissioner Lathrop accepted the nomination. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Panza-

Lathrop, Commissioner Diaz-Diaz, Commissioner Lathrop-Lathrop, Commissioner Haley-Diaz, Commissioner Palumbo-Lathrop. Lathrop had three votes and Diaz had two votes. Commissioner Lathrop accepted the position. Commissioner Panza nominated Commissioner Haley as Secretary. Commissioner Haley respectfully declined. Commissioner Panza stated that he will appoint a secretary at each meeting.

A motion was presented to close Regular Session at 8:42 p.m. and go into Executive Session by Commissioner Palumbo, seconded by Commissioner Diaz and approved unanimously.

motion was presented to close Executive Session and return into Regular Session at 8:54 pm. by Commissioner Palumbo, seconded by Commissioner Lathrop and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to adjourn by Commissioner Palumbo, seconded by Commissioner Lathrop 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

# City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

## COMMISSIONERS

John Panza, Chair  
Robert Lathrop, Vice Chair  
Iris Diaz  
Aaron Haley  
Andrea Palumbo  
Frederick Brown, Alternate  
Robert Pimer, Alternate



Michael T. Esposito  
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal  
mesposito@cityofwesthavenfd.org

## Regular Meeting

### CITY OF WEST HAVEN FIRE COMMISSIONERS ALLINGTOWN

Board of Fire Commissioners

May 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

City Hall

Conference Room, 3rd Floor

355 Main Street, West Haven, CT

## AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of April 2, 2019 meeting minutes.
4. Public Session
5. Finance  
Invoices
6. Communications
7. Report of Chief
8. Report of Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal
9. Old Business  
Parkview Commons Project  
Headquarters Roof  
Headquarters – Exterior repair  
Budget FY 2019-2020  
Minor Park A/C

X

JNA

2019 MAY -6 AM 9:59

TOWN OF WEST HAVEN





# City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown

10. New Business

11. Executive Session.

Vacation and Sick Time  
Personnel Issues

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF WEST HAVEN  
2019 MAY -6 AM 9:59  
X  
RD