A Meeting of the City of West Haven Fire Department Allingtown was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, CT.

Present were Commissioners Robert Lathrop, Iris Diaz, Frederick Brown and Kevin Corcoran. Also present was Deputy Chief Esposito. Commissioner Panza came in at 7:20 p.m.

Commissioner Lathrop called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call
Business Manager Brooks called the roll and declared a quorum. Absent were commissioners Panza, Palumbo and Nunley.

Commissioner Brown stated that according to the By Laws this should be an Organizational Meeting and there should be a vote on the officers for this year. Brief discussion followed. Commissioner Brown made a motion to go into an Organizational Meeting, seconded by Commissioners Diaz. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to add Elections of Officers to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Corcoran. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to hold the Election of Officers, seconded by Commissioner Corcoran. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.

Election of Officers
Commissioner Brown nominated Commissioner Diaz as Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner Corcoran. Commissioner Diaz accepted the nomination. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.
Commissioner Brown nominated Commissioner Nunley as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner Diaz. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.
Commissioner Brown nominated Commissioner Palumbo as secretary, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The vote was unanimous with the exception of Commissioner Lathrop who abstained.
The positions of Vice Chairperson and Secretary are based on the acceptance of the nominations.

Commissioner Brown made a motion to go out of the Organizational Meeting and continue the Regular Meeting at 6:53 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Corcoran. The vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of December 3, 2019 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Corcoran made a motion to approve the December 3, 2019 meeting minutes with one correction, in the paragraph about the Headquarters Exterior Repair and Roof- the sentence that says “He said at this time he is more worried about the brick and mortar. Should be “He said at this time he is more worried about the brick and mortar that is moving; seconded by Commissioner Lathrop and approved unanimously.
4. Public Session
Margaret Krzeminski of 1 Robart Street, West Haven, CT asked about the bills for Pershing, LLC ($8,624.03 for November 2019 and $8,579.60 for December 2019). Business Manager Brooks explained that this is the amount that the department puts in the pension investment for the men that participate in the pension and her for her 401K plan. Margaret asked what percent was put in for the men. Business Manager Brooks replied that it is 12%. Brief conversation followed about the cost of pension and that many places are not giving pensions anymore. Margaret commented that Peter Massaro made a statement at last month’s meeting about an awards ceremony. He said he hoped it didn’t include the fire on Tetlow Street. She stated that she agreed with this. It was a tragedy. She suggested that you put a letter in their file. Margaret was quite upset about the Allingtown green. She stated that there is a monument there for three people and one of them is her father. The other two were friends of his. I hope they do not move the monument. Also the clock was donated by the Harvey family and now it’s broken. No one has stepped up to say who damaged it. No one wants to fix it either. Acting Chief Esposito spoke about how the developer wants to change the green. He has attended a meeting at city hall to speak against it. More discussion followed about the development in the area.

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

6. Communications: Business Manager Brooks a letter of appreciation from the Orange Volunteer Fire Association for the assistance that we provided to them on December 18, 2019 at a structure fire located on Chestnut Ridge Road.

7. Report of the Chief: Acting Chief Esposito gave verbal and written reports for December which will be kept on file.

8. Report of Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal: Deputy Chief Esposito gave verbal and written reports for December. Written reports will be kept on file.

9. Old Business: Parkview Commons Project-Acting Chief Esposito stated that it’s coming along slowly. It has still not been enclosed completely. I’m going to meet with them on Tuesday the 14th to discuss some issues and I’m sure that there will be some discussion about the Allingtown green.

   Headquarters Roof and Exterior Repairs-Acting Chief Esposito stated that he is waiting for one more quote for the roof. The building continues to shake when some of the work is being done next door. I did another mold test. However, it was inconclusive.

   Awards Ceremony – Brief discussion on how to proceed with an awards ceremony. Commissioner Panza explained that he would meet with the union again about this event.

10. New Business: Acting Chief Esposito explained about a FEMA grant. How he has been working on getting the administrative control since the city doesn’t have a grant person at this time. He would like to put together a list of items needed with the commissioners input. However, you cannot put in for everything on your list you have to pick and choose one or two items. A brief discussion followed on some items that will need to be replaced in the near future.

   Commissioner Brown asked that we take a moment of silence for the many deaths that had occurred this past month that were related to the fire service.
A motion was presented to close Regular Session at 8:27 p.m. and go into Executive Session by Commissioner Lathrop, seconded by Commissioner Diaz and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to close Executive Session and return into Regular Session at 8:32 p.m. by Commissioner Lathrop, seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved unanimously.

A motion was presented to adjourn by Commissioner Corcoran, seconded by Commissioner Diaz and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 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