



## **Personnel Committee - Board of Representatives**

Mary Fedeli, Co-Chair

Anabel Figueroa, Co-Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Wednesday, October 23, 2019

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Republican Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Personnel Committee met at the above date and time. In attendance were Co-Chair Fedeli, Co-Chair Figueroa, and Committee Member Reps. DePina, McMullen, Patterson, Pendell and Zelinsky. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Lion and Nabel. Also present was Kathryn Emmett, Law Dept. and Al Cava, Director of Human Resources; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety and Health; and Mayor David Martin.

Co-Chair Fedeli called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. P30.034	APPROVAL; Extension of Appointment of Chief Thomas Wuennemann as Acting Police Chief until April 12, 2020 in accordance with <a href="#">Code §47-24</a> . 10/08/19 – Submitted by Mayor Martin	<b>Committee Approved 5-1-1</b>

The Committee briefly discussed:

- The Board of representatives would be approving the 6 month extension
- [Code §47-24](#) "No position as designated in [§ 47-26](#) of this Article shall be filled on an acting status by any individual for a period to exceed one hundred twenty (120) days unless approved by the Board of Representatives in accordance with Charter Sec. C5-10-2 or unless said *Board of Representatives approved an extension of any temporary acting position at any regular or special meeting.*"
- Chief Thomas Wuennemann started July 2, 2019
- Rep. McMullen questioned the validity of the extension because of Code §47-25;
- Ms. Emmett confirmed that the in Code [§47-24-26](#) the Mayor can appoint without board approval, on an interim basis for 120 days and then can with Board approval extend for additional 6 months.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-1-1 (Reps. Fedeli, DePina, Patterson, Pendell and Zelinsky in favor; Rep. McMullen opposed; Rep. Figueroa abstained).

2. P30.035      APPROVAL; Extension of Employment Contract with Vikki Cooper as Deputy Corporation Counsel.      **Committee Approved 7-0-0**  
10/08/19 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

Ms. Emmett explained

- Vikki Cooper contract is a 4 year term with a 1 year extension
- She has a stipend for a car which was in her original contract
- Confirmed this is a new employment contract for an existing employee, same position. It is not an extension of a contract.
- Her original contract ended in 2017 and it was decided not to submit a new contract until after the Lawyers Union Negotiations ended. Therefore Ms. Cooper has been working without a contract with no employment security.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. Fedeli, Figueroa, DePina, McMullen, Patterson, Pendell and Zelinsky in favor).

***Possibly in Executive Session:***

3. P30.036      REVIEW; Status of Labor Contract Negotiations.      **REPORT MADE**  
09/12/19 – Submitted by Mayor Martin

Mayor David Martin discussed:

- HR Positions that was cut by the Board of Finance in budget negotiations will be requested to add back soon
- HR is still understaffed
- When negotiating union contracts they must follow a number of laws including federal and state laws; which follows MERA (Municipal Employees Relation Act) which impose conditions that are employee friendly and challenging
- Almost universally employees are awarded retro-active contracts
- Unions are not as urgent to settle contracts if a reduction of benefits is offered to be able to continue with the current benefits
- 10 Unions in the City
  - Police Union expired in June30, 2019 (Mandatory HSA)
  - Fire Union expired in June 30, 2019 (Mandatory HSA)
  - UAW expired June 30, 2017(Defined benefit plan at a lower multiplier)
  - MAA expired June 30, 2018(Optional HSA)
  - IUOE expired June 30, 2019
  - Nurse Union expired June 30, 2019
  - IUOE (WPCA) expired June 30, 2019
  - Attorneys Union expired June 30, 2019
  - Dental Hygienists expired June 30, 2019
  - School Custodians expired June 30, 2019

A motion to go into executive session to review the labor contract negotiations with all the unions in the city of Stamford. (Reps. Fedeli, Figueroa, DePina, McMullen,

Patterson, and Zelinsky in favor). The following went into executive session at 7:48 p.m. Committee members Fedeli, Figueroa, DePina, McMullen, Patterson, Pendell and Zelinsky; Mayor Martin, Director Kathy Emmett and Director Al Cava.

The Committee came out of executive session at 8:38 p.m. Co-Chair Fedeli announced that no votes had been taken in executive session.

Co-Chair Figueroa adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary L. Fedeli, Co-Chair

This meeting is on Video ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#))