



Personnel Committee - Board of Representatives

Anabel Figueroa, Chair

Mary Fedeli, Vice Chair

Committee Minutes

Date: Monday, December 18, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *The meeting was conducted remotely.*

Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in this meeting, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator as soon as possible: Carmen Hughes, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, (203) 977-7993, Email: CHughes1@StamfordCT.gov.

The Personnel Committee met remotely at the above date and time. In attendance were Chair Figueroa, Vice Chair Fedeli and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Goldberg, Mays, Patterson and Pavia. Reps. Berns and Jean-Louis were absent/excused. Also present were Rep. Cottrell, Miller, Morson, Shaw, Summerville, Walston and Weinberg; and Dr. Paula Russell Nisbett, HR Director.

Chair Figueroa called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
<i>Possibly in Executive Session:</i>		
1. P31.051	APPROVAL; Employment Agreement for Valerie Rosenson – Legislative Officer. 12/05/23 – Submitted by Paula Russell Nisbett	COMMITTEE APPROVED 7-0-0

Dr. Russell explained that this is a standard employment contract with a one year term.

Rep. Fedeli asked about the annual term and stated that this is highly unusual. Most contracts are 4 years with a 1-year extension.

Clerk Cottrell stated that in October 2022, Valerie's position was extended to January 2024 using the extension in the contract. Rep Cottrell feels like the 1-year term is what she is comfortable with currently. Clerk Cottrell added that there's currently no annual review for the office staff. If there is a problem with an employee, she will discuss it with the employee. If there was an issue with substandard performance, she discusses with Human Resources for further direction.

Rep. Goldberg asked if he could make a motion to change the contract to a 4 year contract. Dr. Russell explained that the length of employments contracts is up to the supervisor of the position. Rep. Fedeli added that there is a legal opinion explaining that the Board of Representatives cannot change contracts.

The Committee discussed a possible executive session to get a clearer understanding of why Clerk Cottrell is choosing a 1-year contract.

Rep. Goldberg made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the proposed term of Valerie Rosenson's contract, seconded by Representative Mays. Rep. Fedeli stated that this is not a valid reason to go into executive session.

Rep. Goldberg changed his motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Representative Mays.

Rep. Fedeli stated that in order to go into executive session on a Personnel matter, the Person being discussed must be notified. Reps. Goldberg and Mays withdrew their motion.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0. (Reps. Figueroa, Fedeli, Adams, Goldberg, Mays, Patterson and Pavia in favor)

2. P31.052	APPROVAL; Extension of Appointment of Robert Morris as Acting Fire Chief for an Additional 60 Days in Accordance with Code §47-25. 12/06/23 – Submitted by Bridget Fox	COMMITTEE APPROVED 7- 0-0
------------	---	--

Chair Figueroa read the following email from Bridget Fox into the record:

The second item on Monday evening's agenda is a request for an extension of the extension of the approval of Robert Morris as Acting Fire Chief for an additional 60 Days (P31. 052). The Administration is requesting an extension of 60 days (beyond the original 120 days) to fill the position of Fire Chief. Section 47-25 in the Code of Ordinances notes the following:

1. Sec. 47-25. - Approval.

The Board of Representatives may give temporary approval by a simple majority of those members present and voting at a regular or special meeting. Said temporary approval may be granted at the request of the Mayor but in no event shall it exceed six (6) months for any individual. In the event that approval of an extension to an acting position is denied by the Board of Representatives, then the appointing authority shall have thirty (30) days in which to designate another individual to acting status.

A hiring committee will begin interviewing candidates the week of December 18th with the goal of identifying a permanent candidate for consideration by the Board of Representatives at the beginning of February 2024. Lou and I will not be able to join the meeting on Monday evening as we will be with the Mayor at an event, but Paula Russell will be on the call to address any questions you may have. I am available to address any questions that the Board may have in advance of the January 2nd full Board meeting.

Dr. Nisbett stated that there is a hiring committee and the Members of this committee include: Louis DeRubeis, Bridget Fox, Robert McGrath, Mary Sommer, Jo Hines and Paul Russell Nisbett.

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0. (Reps. Figueroa, Fedeli, Adams, Goldberg, Mays, Patterson and Pavia in favor)

Chair Figueroa adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anabel Figueroa, Chair

This meeting is on [Video](#).