

A MESSAGE
FROM THE
MAYOR

Michael A. Pavia,
Mayor

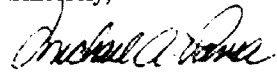
CITY OF
STAMFORD

Dear Citizen:

I wish to thank the volunteer fire departments for giving me this opportunity to share with you some information about our fire service in Stamford. The safety of our citizens has been - and must continue to be - the number one priority. As stated throughout my campaign, the necessity to improve fire protection service throughout the volunteer districts of Stamford, is clear. A recent in-depth study has brought us to the proposal of a new fire plan; a plan that will consolidate our volunteer fire departments into one. Consolidating the volunteer departments will result in standardized operating procedures, uniform and consistent training and hiring standards, and tighter fiscal control. The plan will also allow us to continue important traditions of community service and volunteerism to provide a safe, effective, and reliable fire protection service within the City of Stamford.

The proposed plan, briefly outlined below, is moving through the review process and hopefully, will soon be approved by the Board of Representatives. I encourage you to reach out to your local Board of Representatives (see reverse) to support the fire plan.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Pavia, Mayor

THE MAYOR'S NEW PLAN

- The four volunteer fire departments will be consolidated.
- Belltown + Turn of River + Springdale + Long Ridge = NEW DEPARTMENT
- All volunteer fire departments are moving forward to merge into a single, cohesive fire service

COST

- Although your volunteer fire departments have not received adequate city funding since 2007, there will be NO TAX INCREASE for the new fire department
- The current portion of your real property tax for fire service will be deferred into the new fire taxing district

BENEFITS

- Consolidation will provide stronger and more efficient fire protection
- Faster response times
- Better coverage and more manpower
- Standardized operating procedures and training

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Our departments take great pride in nearly 100 years of serving the community
- Encourage volunteerism
- Fire prevention education
- Neighbors helping neighbors

For additional information, please visit
http://ci.stamford.ct.us/additional_info.html

City of Stamford
Office of the Mayor

Stamford Government Center
388 Washington Blvd.
P.O. Box 10152
Stamford, CT
06904-2152

Tel: 203-977-4150
Fax: 203-977-5845
mpavia@ci.stamford.ct.us



Stamford
Board of
Representatives

Please call or write your local Board of Representative and ask them to support the Mayor's new fire plan for the City of Stamford. If you wish to E-mail your Representative please send to bdreps@ci.stamford.ct.us

District:	Name:	Address:	phone:
11	Mitchell Kaufman	180 North Stamford Rd. 06905	559-8266
11	John Zelinsky	109 fourth St. 06905	348-3870
13	Harry Day	82 Wild Duck Rd. 06903	322-0217
13	Scott Mirkin	10 East Ridge Rd. 06903	968-6346
14	Gabe DeLuca	27 Long Hill Dr. 06902	324-9194
14	Carl Franzetti	61 High Clear Dr. 06905	322-9280
15	Frank Cerasoli	25 Todd Ln. 06905	595-9383
15	Joseph Coppola	102 Belltown Rd. 06905	348-1879
16	Salvatore Gabriele	73 Ken Ct. 06905	536-3220
16	Michael Molgano	10 Hazelwood Ln. 06905	461-8551
17	Mary Fedeli	7 Gilford St. 06907	353-0405
17	Arthur Layton	668 Glenbrook Rd. 06906	325-4688
18	James Caterbone	207 Slice Dr. 06907	329-0479
18	Michael Raduazzo	1551 Hope St. 06907	989-0881
19	Randall Skigen	51 Boulder Brook Dr. 06903	322-7184
19	Annie Taylor	219 Old Long Ridge Rd. 06903	461-9653
20	Michael Lombardo	17 Redmont Rd. 06903	322-9580
20	Andy Sklover	69 Mather Rd. 06903	609-0230



BA BUTLER ASSOCIATES LLC. PUBLIC RELATIONS

204 EAST 23RD STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10010
TEL: 212.685.4600 | ON THE WEB: WWW.BUTLERASSOCIATES.COM

The ADVOCATE®

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2010

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Burning fire questions for the mayor

To the editor:

Mayor Pavia needs to start disclosing to the citizens of Stamford how his proposed "Stamford Volunteer Fire Department" (which will include 61 new paid firefighters) will be funded.

When the mayor first formally presented his fire service plan to the Stamford Board of Representatives' Public Safety Committee on July 29, he stated that his administration had only preliminary numbers and they were still "drilling down" the numbers. Two and a half months later, the mayor has yet to disclose how much his second paid fire department will cost Stamford taxpayers.

It's time for Mayor Pavia to start answering important public safety and fiscal questions including:

- What will the annual payroll cost be for the 61 new paid firefighters?
- What other start-up costs are involved in a new fire department?
- Would the city of Stamford and its taxpayers be liable for any improper actions taken by employees or volunteers of this new department?
- What will this new department's annual operating budget be (exclusive of payroll)?
- What is the additional tax or service fee to be imposed per household in Turn of River, Belltown, Springdale and Long Ridge?

- How does this plan address the long-term problem of inadequate responses by the volunteer companies to emergencies? Wouldn't the vast majority of the 61 paid firefighters come from the ranks of the volunteers? If that happens, where will this new department get the volunteers to support the paid firefighters?

- Under this plan, wouldn't you continue to have a situation where the initial manpower responding to emergencies in North Stamford would be a fire engine with a driver, and maybe a second firefighter, with the hope that enough volunteers show up?

Why has Mayor Pavia ignored a cost-neutral plan prepared by the city's top ranking chiefs of the Stamford Fire & Rescue Department that would reallocate the resources of SFRD to cover the areas now served by the volunteer departments?

**Brendan Keatley
Stamford**

The writer is president of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 786.

10/29/09



CITY OF STAMFORD
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904
(203) 333-2297

RECEIVED

OCT 29 2009

**PUBLIC SAFETY
HEALTH & WELFARE**

October 26, 2009

**William S. Callion, Jr
Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare
City of Stamford
Stamford Government Center
888 Washington Boulevard
P.O. Box 10152
Stamford Ct 06904-2152**

RE: 1997 Memorandum of Agreement

"Pursuant to Paragraph 15 of the Memorandum of Agreement dated November 13, 1997, the Springdale Fire Company, Inc. is hereby providing its 180 day advance notice to terminate the agreement"

Sincerely,

**Bruce Vukson
President
Springdale Fire Company**

Sincerely,

**David Schulman
Vice President
Springdale Fire Company**

**Cc: Mayor Malloy
Monte Frank Attorney**

CHIEF ANTHONY J. MILONE, RETIRED

4386 E. 4th. Avenue
Apache Junction, AZ. 85119-4504
Chiefcacti@msn.com

December 20, 2010

I read with great interest the statement of Mayor Pavia, in the Stamford Advocate, and can not see how he can possibly do what he is planning. It makes no sense at all to try and accomplish the task of dividing the City of Stamford into two separate fire districts. The mayors claims that it would be very expensive and near impossibly to change the city charter and remove the autonomy granted the volunteer districts. Did the Mayor get a written commitment from all five volunteer fire departments stating that they will simply allow the city to change the charter if a second fire department is established in the north end of Stamford? If not, what makes him think that anything will change even if a second department is organized to cover the territory now being protected by four of the five volunteer departments.


The Mayor also stated that it will be paid for by additional taxes in what he calls a special service taxing district. He goes on to say that it will not impose any additional cost on the residence of the new fire district. Just who will be responsible for the millions of dollars needed to implement the Mayors dreams and obligations? If not the citizens living in the present volunteer districts, then it must be the citizens currently living in the down town paid professional district. Just how much will their taxes be raised to cover the cost of this grand scheme of Mayor Pavia?

The truth be told, the best solution is the simplest solution. This was presented to the Mayor by Assistant Chief Peter Brown. Why would anyone want to intentionally spent an additional 8 million dollars, or more, annually to establish two fire departments when one can be expanded for no additional outlay of money. I believe that The Board Of Representatives and The Board of Finance should take a long hard look at what is being proposed. My opinion is also very simple. The city should bear the cost of changing the charter. This may not be as difficult as it seems. I'm certain that the City of Stamford can have one agency, like the detective bureau in the Police Department, investigate just how many volunteers respond to fires and medical incidents. This, when completed, will simply tell the citizens of Stamford exactly what they are getting for their money. I believe that the representatives will be very surprised to find that turnout in the volunteer districts has been misleading and dangerously low. The investigation should next delve into the training and education of our volunteer firefighters. I believe it will turn up evidence that very few volunteers have received proper training and probably are not currently legal in their Emergency Medical Training certification. I have no problem with the volunteer program and spent many years the Glenbrook Fire Department prior to being appointed to the Stamford Fire Department in 1967. Major changes have taken place in Stamford since then. The volunteer districts have gone through enormous changes and are no longer the little communities where people live and

work and could respond to emergency incidents at all hours of the day and night. It is about time the politicians open their eyes and see what is truly best for the City of Stamford and not what is best for themselves. Don't make promises you can't keep.

The City of Stamford will remain at the top of their class when they come to the realization that the city will best be protected if there is no more than ONE FIRE DEPARTMENT with ONE FIRE CHIEF who answer only to the Fire Commission and the Mayor of Stamford.

Sincerely,



Chief Anthony J. Milone, retired

**cc: Stamford Board of Representatives
Stamford Board of Finance
SFRD local 786
Assistant Chief Peter Brown**



What City Hall Doesn't Want You to Ask About Mayor Pavia's Plan to Create a Second Paid Fire Department and to RAISE YOUR TAXES!

Stamford Mayor Michael Pavia has proposed creating a second separate paid fire department for the City of Stamford. This new "Stamford Volunteer Fire Department" would merge 4 of the 5 volunteer companies serving North Stamford and add 61 paid fire fighters to the "volunteer" fire system. Additional taxes would be imposed on you, the taxpayer to fund this department. However very few details have been disclosed:

- **Why does a "volunteer" fire department need 61 paid firefighters? What will that cost in salaries, benefits, and health care obligations?**
- **How much will it cost in legal, human resource and other fees to get this start-up, paid fire department off the ground? What other expenses are taxpayers liable for involved in starting-up a new fire department?**
- **What criteria will be used to select and hire the best firefighting candidates for this new fire department? Will it be based on equal opportunity, experience, education, test scores, physical ability and training or political patronage or other non-merit based criteria?**
- **Will the City of Stamford and the taxpayers become liable for the outstanding financial debts and obligations of the existing volunteer fire companies?**
- **Who will oversee the millions of taxpayer dollars spent annually by the proposed fire tax district and will the City still be required to subsidize this new fire department as it has the volunteer companies?**
- **Doesn't it make more economic and public safety sense to simply have the Stamford Fire & Rescue Department, the city's already established professional fire department in command of all fire safety in the city?**

Call Mayor Pavia @ 203.977.4150, option # 3 and demand answers and a transparent and open process without backroom deal making.

For more information visit www.StamfordFireTruths.org

**This message brought to you by
Stamford Professional Fire Fighters Association**

MAYOR
MICHAEL A. PAVIA



CITY OF STAMFORD
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
P.O. BOX 10152
STAMFORD, CT 06904-2152

Tel: (203) 977-4150
Fax: (203) 977-5845
Email: mpavia@ci.stamford.ct.us

December 16, 2009

Brendan T. Keatley
President
Stamford Professional Fire Fighters Association
629 Main Street
Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Brendan:

Thank you for the invitation to meet with you and the executive board of your union to begin building the bridge that leads to exemplary fire service for every Stamford resident.

I cannot attend on January 6th; but, if you will forward my Executive Aide, Lynn Arnow, some prospective dates that you and your board members will be available, we will see to it that a meeting gets scheduled.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Pavia
Mayor

MAP/jbn



STAMFORD PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

International Association of Fire Fighters • Local 786
629 Main Street • Stamford, Connecticut 06901
www.local786.com

September 20, 2010

Mayor Michael Pavia
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, Ct 06904

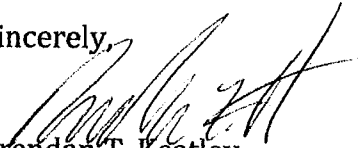
Mayor Pavia,

As the duly elected bargaining representative for the career professional fire fighters employed by the City of Stamford, Ct, I am requesting the opportunity to meet with you, to discuss the numerous fire service concerns of the career professional fire fighters that service the City of Stamford, Ct.

As you are aware, we have not had the opportunity to meet with you since you became Mayor of the City, earlier this year. We have also not been able to meet with you in your role as the Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare.

Please let me know of a convenient time and place to meet.

Sincerely,


Brendan T. Keatley
President, IAFF Local 786



STAMFORD PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

International Association of Fire Fighters • Local 786
629 Main Street • Stamford, Connecticut 06901
www.local786.com

September 27, 2010

Mayor Michael Pavia
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, Ct 06904

Mayor Pavia,

As the duly elected bargaining representative for the career professional fire fighters employed by the City of Stamford, Ct, I am requesting the opportunity to meet with you, to discuss the numerous fire service concerns of the career professional fire fighters that service the City of Stamford, Ct.

As you are aware, we have not had the opportunity to meet with you since you became Mayor of the City, earlier this year. We have also not been able to meet with you in your role as the Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare.

Please let me know of a convenient time and place to meet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brendan T. Keatley'.

Brendan T. Keatley
President, IAFF Local 786



STAMFORD PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

International Association of Fire Fighters • Local 786
629 Main Street • Stamford, Connecticut 06901
www.local786.com

October 4, 2010

Mayor Michael Pavia
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, Ct 06904

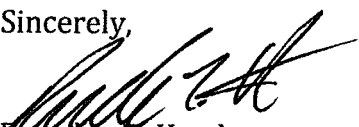
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As the duly elected bargaining representative for the career professional fire fighters employed by the City of Stamford, Ct, I am requesting the opportunity to meet with you, to discuss the numerous fire service concerns of the career professional fire fighters that service the City of Stamford, Ct.

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Please let me know of a convenient time and place to meet.

Sincerely,


Brendan T. Keatley
President, IAFF Local 786



STAMFORD PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

International Association of Fire Fighters • Local 786
629 Main Street • Stamford, Connecticut 06901
www.local786.com

October 12, 2010

Mayor Michael Pavia
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, Ct 06904

Mayor Pavia,

As the duly elected bargaining representative for the career professional fire fighters employed by the City of Stamford, Ct, I am requesting the opportunity to meet with you, to discuss the numerous fire service concerns of the career professional fire fighters that service the City of Stamford, Ct.

As you are aware, we have not had the opportunity to meet with you since you became Mayor of the City, earlier this year. We have also not been able to meet with you in your role as the Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare.

Please let me know of a convenient time and place to meet.

Sincerely,

Brendan T. Keatley
President, IAFF Local 786

Al Forte
521 Shippan Ave. Apt. #216
Stamford, CT 06902
203.940.3651

Letter to the Editor Stamford Advocate

Where in the world, could someone fell deathly ill at one in the morning and within minutes have trained professionals at their door to treat them and take them to a state-of-the-art hospital?
STAMFORD!!!

I am writing this to thank **Stamford's EMS, Fire Dept. and Stamford Hospital** for their tremendous help and treatment. All their personnel were extremely kind, professional and competent.

On Thursday, November 11th at about 1:00am I became extremely dizzy and nauseous. I was fringed and didn't know what was happening to me (later to find out it was vertigo). I had to lean against a wall to keep from falling down. I sat down, couldn't move, heard ringing in my ears and began throwing up. Waited awhile thinking it would go away, it didn't.

Pulled the medical emergency cord in my apartment. **Stamford Firemen and EMS personal** arrived **shortly**. They knew what they were doing and I felt I was in good hands. They were quick yet extremely kind and considerate, took my vitals signs (blood pressure, pulse, temperature, etc.), connected an IV, got me on a stretcher, into the ambulance and off to Stamford Hospital. Thank you.

Again at **Stamford Hospital**, all the personnel, the doctors, support staff and especially the nurses were extremely kind, professional and competent. The hospital and all its services were great. The staff was extremely thorough. I was treated for vertigo, told exactly what to do next and released after three days.

Stamford's EMS, Fire Dept. and Hospital are **GREAT**.

Thank you,