

**City of West Haven, CT**  
**Board of Police Commissioners**  
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, June 15, 2021

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The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Raymond Collins III at West Haven Police Headquarters, 200 Sawmill Road. All those present, rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance**

Raymond Collins III, <i>Chairman</i>	Present
Paul E. Butler, <i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Present
Keith Sweeney, <i>Commissioner</i>	Absent
Christopher Suggs, <i>Commissioner</i>	Present
Deborah B. Wright, <i>Pension Board Chair and Commissioner</i>	Present
Joseph Perno, <i>Chief of Police</i>	Present
Carl Flemming, <i>Deputy Chief</i>	Present

**Agenda**

Chief Perno introduced item 11.2 to the beginning of the agenda regarding personnel review of candidates. Commissioner Suggs MOVED to add the item to the agenda; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

**1. Executive Session**

The meeting moved into executive session at 7:01 PM to discuss item 11.2.

**2. Return to Regular Session**

At 7:04 PM the Commissioners returned to regular session.

**3. Minutes of June 1, 2021**

Commissioner Butler MOVED to accept the minutes as presented; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Input**

Detective Sean Faughnan offered the following remarks:

“We recently had an officer who will be retiring soon, and I wanted to mention that we will have a type of retention issue again that we will need to discuss. With this veteran officer who came from another agency and came here, we are fearing that we will begin to lose other officers.”

On another note, we are here for the promotion today, and the police department, Chief of Police, and Deputy Chief were able to get back the position we lost many years ago. It is a very special position. Someone who has retired once said that the Patrol Division is the backbone of this whole department. That's true, but also one of the most important pieces of this whole department is the Identification Unit, and we have two that are top notch and a third one who is being promoted tonight, Michael Vivenzio. Michael has been trained for over four years. He's almost two years now working in the ID division. He comes on every callout, and he's made some significant contributions involving two homicides that we have worked on amongst everything else. He puts a lot of stuff on the side and comes out for all his callings, and he is respected immensely, as you can see by the amount of people in here upwards from the captains on down to patrol. He is an FTO, and he is able to train and bring his knowledge here.

Michael came here a little later in life with some wisdom and experience and he's made a difference here. He is a friend of mine and is a dedicated hard worker. His son hopefully emulates something, obviously follows in his footsteps becoming a Bridgeport Police Officer and a Hamden Police Officer. Mike, you should be proud of your father. He is respected here and he's well deserved. I just wanted to say that on behalf of the executive board, Mike congratulations on your position, and good luck."

Chairman Collins asked three times if any person from the public wished to speak. There being none, he declared the public portion closed.

## **5. Communications**

The following monthly reports:

- 3.1 Attendance Report – May 2021
- 3.2 Animal Control Report – May 2021
- 3.3 K9 Report Ofc. Marchitto & K9 Ado – April 2021
- 3.4 K9 Report Ofc. Marchitto & K9 Ado – May 2021
- 3.5 Traffic Report – May 2021
- 3.6 Training Report – May 2021

**6. Report of the Chief – No Report**

**7. Report of the Deputy Chief – No Report**

**8. Report of the Committees – Personnel not Present for Report**

**9. Old Business – None Presented**

**10. New Business**

Item 8.3 was addressed first, followed by item 8.1 and item 8.2.

### **8.3 Promotion – Ofc. Michael Vivenzio to the Rank of Detective**

The Deputy Chief offered the following remarks:

“Officer Michael Vivenzio has been with the West Haven Police Department for approximately ten years. Prior to joining us he was a Police Officer at the University of New Haven. He is a hard working dedicated officer who takes pride in his job and often goes above and beyond in the performance of his duties. He is well liked and respected by both the rank and file and is a great asset to this agency.

Officer Michael Vivenzio has periodically served in the ID Unit since August 2015 and has been assigned there since September 2019. He has excelled in this assignment and his actions and work ethic have always reflected positively upon our agency’s mission and goals. He has assisted in solving numerous cases through forensic evidence and was instrumental in solving a recent homicide, by linking the suspect to the victim, through forensic evidence. He has successfully completed numerous Forensic Evidence classes that combined with his experience and training has helped develop his investigative skills and has prepared him for this next step in his career.

I would like to congratulate Officer Michael Vivenzio on his well deserved promotion to Detective.”

Chief Perno MOVED to promote Officer Michael Vivenzio to the rank of detective with a start date of 7/1; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously

Commissioner Wright MOVED for a 5-minute recess; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners returned to regular session at 7:17 PM.

### **8.1 Disputed Parking Ticket – Jean Marie Bria - #P008008**

Since Jean Marie Bria who asked for the hearing was not present, Commissioner Butler MOVED to uphold the fine of the ticket; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

### **8.2 Disputed Parking Ticket – Sergio Garcia Feraz - #P008012**

Since Sergio Garcia Feraz who asked for the hearing was not present, Commissioner Butler MOVED to uphold the fine of the ticket; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

## **11. Pension Board**

David Moran from the Raymond James financial service firm gave a brief update on the performance of the pension funds to date and fiscal year to date, since the fiscal year ends June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Wright asked if they are still floating about a percent of cash and if there is anything that needs to be done before June 30th. He answered that the number is about 3-4%, give or take, and that nothing needs to be done before June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**12. Commissioners Report – No Report**

**13. Executive Session**

Chief Perno MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following monthly report:

11.1 Special Victims Unit & Firearms Unit Report – May 2021

Motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion Carried unanimously.

**14. Return to Regular Session/Adjournment**

At 7:24 PM the Commissioners returned to regular session and adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Butler; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana Hojo, Recording Clerk