

**CITY OF WEST HAVEN, CT**  
**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
*Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, February 19, 2019*

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

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Raymond Collins, III, Chairman</b>	present
<b>Paul E. Butler, Vice-Chairman</b>	present
<b>Keith Sweeney</b>	present
<b>Peter BonTempo, Secretary</b>	present
<b>Deborah B. Wright, Pension Board</b>	present
<b>John Karajanis, Chief of Police</b>	absent
<b>Joseph Perno, Deputy Chief of Police</b>	present
<b>Lee Tiernan, Corporation Counsel</b>	absent

**ADD ONS**

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to add the following items to the agenda:

- Item 9.2 Dave Moran
- 8.1 Executive Session (rehire of Ofc. Paul Stutzman)
- 8.1a Rehire of Officer Paul Stutzman
- 8.4 Action on Budget Review

SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Commissioner Wright MOVED to accept the agenda as amended; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

**1. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

Commissioner Wright MOVED to reelect the following slate of Officers:

- Raymond Collins, III as Chairman
- Paul Butler as Vice-Chairman
- Peter BonTempo as Secretary
- Keith Sweeney Personnel Commissioner
- Deborah Wright as Pension Board Commissioner

SECONDED by Commissioner Sweeney. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

## **2. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to correct the minutes of February 5, 2019 as follows:

Page 4, Item 7.4 change "Sheehan" to "Sweeney."

SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to accept the minutes of February 5, 2019 as corrected; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

## **3. PUBLIC SESSION**

Shawn Brown, 56 Highview Avenue

Mr. Brown noted that West Haven was given \$150,000 for an anti-violence grant. He would like to know the line item, the expenditures, and how it affects the Allingtown area.

He was directed to the City's Finance Department for that specific information.

## **4. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Commission reviewed the following Communication:

### **4.1 Overtime Report – January 2019**

Commissioner Wright urged Deputy Chief Perno to keep the overtime numbers in check.

Deputy Chief Perno assured the Commissioners that he is keeping an eye on it, and that there oftentimes are items that are posted under the incorrect line item and adjustments are made as soon as they are discovered in those cases.

Commissioner Bon Tempo noted that it was at 62 percent after five months, and is likely attributable to the lower number of manpower trying to cover all of the beats that have to be filled.

### **4.2 Attendance Report – January 2019**

### **4.3 Animal Control Division Report – January 2019**

- 4.4 K-9 Activity – Sgt. Bloom (Ike) – January 2019
- 4.5 K-9 Activity – Ofc. Standish (Cody) – January 2019
- 4.6 K-9 Activity – Ofc. Marchitto (Ado) – January 2019
- 4.7 Support Services Report – January 2019
- 4.8 Traffic Management Unit Report – January 2019
- 4.9 Investigative Services Division Report – January 2019
- 4.10 Training Division Report – January 2019
- 4.11 Letter of Appreciation to Deputy Chief Perno and the Police Commissioners from the Dargan Family

## **5. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE**

Deputy Chief Perno addressed the Commissioners on the proposed 2019-2020 budget request for the Police Department. This budget may be increased or decreased throughout the process at City Hall.

He reviewed the position schedule including a request for funding to fill 3 detectives positions. The new Finance Director is very helpful and understands the need for equipment and training. The forecast is what we intend to use. Funding for promotional exams as well as awards/pins/certificates are included in the request.

The Capital Non-Recurring Section may be tweaked. The budget provides for existing cars plus five additional cars, and a new prisoner transport van. We continue to request funding for an automated parking ticket system - \$10,000 per year for the next two years. Lastly, the budget includes funding for the feral cat trap & neuter program. The request for fuel is decreased this year and is calculated per the direction of the Finance Department.

## **6. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES**

No report.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

None presented.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- 8.1 Executive Session Re: Re-hire of Patrol Officer Paul Stutzman

At 7:17 p.m. Commissioner Butler MOVED to enter Executive Session with Paul Stutzman, Sergeant Kleinknecht, Captain Fleming and Deputy Chief Perno. SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

#### 8.1A Rehire of Patrol Officer Paul Stutzman

At 7:28 p.m., the Commissioners returned to Regular Session. There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to rehire Patrol Officer Paul Stutzman as of 2/25/2019; SECONDED by Commissioner Bon Tempo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Commissioner Collins congratulated and welcomed Officer Stutzman.

#### 8.2 Ordinance Violation – Cynthia Jones, 211 Fairfax Street – Animal Complaint (Violations J and Y)

Ms. Cynthia Jones explained her version of what occurred July 3, 2018 when her dog bit Officer Carleton. Since then, she licensed all six of her dogs.

Commissioner Butler noted that in July, 2011 Ms. Jones received a verbal warning for dogs roaming. There was an additional incident with Ms. Jones' dogs in October, 2017.

The Officer that was bit on July 3 was subsequently out sick on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to waive the fine for unlicensed dogs and uphold a fine of \$200 for dogs roaming; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

#### 8.3 The Savin Rock ½ and Full Marathon

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to approve the Savin Rock ½ and Full Marathon; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

#### 8.4 Budget review

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to approve the proposed 2019-2020 Police Budget Request; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Deputy Chief Perno noted that the Animal Control budget prepared by retired Sergeant Eric Pimer.

## **9. PENSION BOARD**

### **9.1 Retirement of Sergeant Eric Pimer**

Commissioner Wright explained that unfortunately she does not have numbers for Eric Pimer or Thomas Flaherty. She will try to reach the Finance Director this week. She expressed her extreme frustration with the process or lack thereof, and noted that there is no excuse that this has been going on for a month with no resolution or final numbers so these retired officers can be paid.

Commissioner Wright **MOVED** to **TABLE** the retirement pensions of Eric Pimer and Thomas Flaherty to next month; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sweeney. A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

Commissioner Sweeney asked Deputy Chief Perno if a proposal has yet come up to have the person that used to prepare the retirement numbers continue to do them. Discussion ensued on the process, both past and present.

### **9.2 David Moran**

Mr. Moran gave the Commissioners an update on the pension. He noted that the number are up and are looking good. He also offered to look into an automated system for running retirement numbers and get back to Commissioner Wright on that.

## **10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

No report.

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At approximately 8 p.m., Commissioner Bon Tempo **MOVED** to enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

### **11.1 ISD – Special Victims Unit Monthly Activity Report – January 2019**

and invited Deputy Chief Perno to remain in the Executive Session; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sweeney. A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

## **12. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION/ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 8:05 p.m., Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to return to Regular Session; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

Commissioner Wright MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Bruder", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patricia M. Bruder  
Secretary