

**City of West Haven, CT
Board of Police Commissioners
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, August 5th, 2025**

The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Paul E. Butler at West Haven Police Headquarters, 200 Sawmill Road. All those present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Dorinda Borer, <i>Mayor, City of West Haven</i>	Present
Paul E. Butler, <i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Present
John M. Carrano, <i>Commissioner</i>	Present
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 Flemmig, <i>Deputy Chief</i>	Present
Steven B. Johnstone, <i>City Council Liaison</i>	Absent

Agenda

Commissioner Wright MOVED to add Item 7.1 for David Moran from Raymond James to the agenda; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Suggs MOVED to add Item 9.1 regarding Folks on Spokes event to the agenda; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to add Item 9.2 regarding permanent closure of Boylston Street near Abner Street; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Suggs MOVED to accept the agenda as amended; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Minutes

Commissioner Wright MOVED to accept the minutes from the previous meeting on July 1st, 2025; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Input

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

3. Communications

- 3.1 Animal Control Report – June 2025**
- 3.2 Attendance Report – June 2025**
- 3.3 Traffic Management Report – June 2025**

4. Report of the Chief

Chief Perno reported that R&L Auto Service Inc. and DePalma's Garage and Towing are on a 30-day suspension for excessive no-shows and unavailable.

Chief Perno noted positive participation and conversation at the Community Meeting held on August 4th, 2025 among those in attendance regarding mostly traffic related issues and Al Anon literature distribution.

5. Report of the Deputy Chief

Deputy Chief Flemmig reported the West Haven Police Department's current staff of 119 Officers with 11 unavailable leaving 108 available Officers.

6. Report of the Committees – None

7. Pension Board

David Moran of Raymond James delivered a report on the fiscal year return of the WHPD Pension stating total portfolio is currently \$142,569,293. Mr. Moran stated that the fund is performing very well in comparison to similar public funds less than \$250M and feels confident that the coming year will result in a similar outcome despite controversy.

Lieutenant D'Amato stated that all Officers who have chosen to opt into the pension payments have been confirmed, numbers have been calculated and are with Raymond James to be finalized.

8. Old Business – None

9. New Business

9.1 Special Olympics Connecticut – September 14-15, 2025

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to accept the Special Olympics Connecticut to be held on September 14-15, 2025; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

9.2 Folks on Spokes – September 14th, 2025

Commissioner Wright MOVED to accept the Folks on Spokes event to be held on September 14th, 2025; SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

9.3 Permanent Road Closure of Boylston Street at Abner Street

Commissioner Suggs MOVED to accept the permanent road closure of Boylston Street at Abner Street; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Mayor Borer provided further details stating that the closure had been temporary for a few years. West Haven has received \$1.8M from the state to upgrade the VA neighborhood and will use this closure as an opportunity to pave sidewalks, add fencing, and clean up the unsightly and unsafe New Jersey barriers along this street. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Carrano noted the impressive job by the WHPD overseeing major events with minimal issues in recent huge events including the WH Fireworks, Savin Rock Festival, and Community Meeting.

Mayor Borer announced the transfer of some capital funding to support body cameras and other capital projects for WHPD.

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Wright MOVED to invite Mayor Borer to Executive Session; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

11.1 Personnel

The motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Suggs. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners entered Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. and returned to public at 7:53 p.m.

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to reopen Item 7 regarding Pension Board to add Item 7.2 DROP Application for Chief Joseph Perno; SECONDED by Chairman Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Suggs MOVED to reenter Executive Session and invite Mayor Borer; SECONDED by Chairman Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners reentered Executive Sessions at 7:56 p.m. and returned to public at 8:31 p.m.

12. Adjournment

At 8:31 p.m., Commissioner Suggs MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Collins
Recording Clerk