

REGULAR MEETING
WEST HAVEN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 5, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 at Police Headquarters, 200 Saw Mill Rd., West Haven CT.

Present were Commissioners Lisa Yarbor, Grace Hendricks, R.K. Smith and Thomas Gallagher. Also present were Police Chief Colleen Smullen and Lt. Burton Gifford, President of Local 895. Commissioner Botte was not present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairperson Yarbor called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

There were no additions to the January 5 Agenda.

A motion was then presented by Commissioner Gallagher to accept the January 5, 2010 agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendricks and approved unanimously.

1. Minutes of December 15, 2009

The following corrections were made to the Minutes of December 15, 2009:

Page 2 – New Business – Item 6.1 – Paragraph 2, last sentence – should read: The Commissioners and Chief Smullen wished him well in his retirement.

Page 3 – Executive Session – Paragraph 1 – should read: A motion was presented by Commissioner Gallagher to enter into Executive Session at 8:04pm.

A motion was then presented by Commissioner Hendricks to accept the Minutes of December 15, 2009, as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

2. Public Input

Det Sgt Walter Casey of 40 Harding Avenue spoke of Det Anderson's fine work with the Department for 27 years and will be missed.

Ret. Chief Russ Kniehl of 82 Honor Rd congratulated Det Anderson on his retirement and Capt Giuliano on his promotion. He also stated that he intends to keep the withdrawal of pension funds alive and that the fund was very important to him. He also stated that steps must be made to make it solvent, secure and a sacred trust.

Lt Gifford 200 Saw Mill Rd stated that a law firm should be found that specializes in pension funds and that legal advice must be sought. This issue must be kept alive.

Commissioner Yarbor assured everyone that this issue will not be let go.

3. Communications

- 3.1 West Haven Police Dept. Crime Analysis Unit Reports – October – November, 2009
- 3.2 Letter of Appreciation- Sgt Eric Pimer – Rabbi Adam Haston, Director of Programming & Community Development
- 3.3 Letter of Appreciation- Chief Colleen Smullen – Marc L Montminy, Chief of Police, Manchester Police Department
- 3.4 Letter of Appreciation- Chief Colleen Smullen – Thomas J. Wydra, Chief of Police, Hamden
- 3.5 Letter of Appreciation- Traffic Division – Family of Mrs. Jane France Cusack Manning
- 3.6 Letter of Appreciation – Ofc Michael Schweitzer – Barbara Card
- 3.7 Monthly Injury and Lost Time Report – December 2009

4. Report of the Chief

Chief Smullen reported on the following:

- 1. The Pension Benefit Coordinator has been reappointed to the Workman's Compensation Board by Governor Rell
- 2. Policies have been established for the Peer Support Group and there are officers on site to reach out to anyone in need of support.
- 3. Regarding Recruitment – the Agility Test will take place on the 15th and 17th of this month. There were 327 applicants of which 300 will be taking the test.
- 4. There will be D.A.R.E. graduations on the 12th and 13th of this month.
- 5. Officer Gonce has been assigned as the SRO in the High School. There is ongoing communications between the High School and Board of Education regarding any problems that may arise at the High School.
- 6. Attended the South Central Chiefs meeting to learn about the new laws concerning juveniles.
- 7. Will be attending the Martin Luther King activities on 1/10/10 at the First Congregational Church at 4pm.

5. Old Business

None

6. New Business

- 6.1 Promotion to Captain – Lt. Christopher Giuliano
A motion was presented by Commissioner Hendricks to promote Lt. Christopher Giuliano to the rank of Captain effective 01/08/10. the motion was seconded by Commissioner Gallagher and approved unanimously.
- 6.2 Request for Retirement – Det Edward Anderson
A motion was presented by Commissioner Gallagher to accept the request for retirement by Det Edward Anderson, effective 01/07/10. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hendricks and approved unanimously.

6. New Business – (Con't)

Chief Smullen stated that Det Anderson joined the department on 1/7/83, was promoted to Sergeant in 1991 and on 7/18/02 became a detective. He received several commendations and has given 27 years of dedicated service to the department. She wished him well on his retirement.

7. Pension Board

At this time, Chairperson Yarbor turned the chair over to Commissioner Hendricks, Chairperson of the Pension Board.

7.1 Request for Retirement Benefits – Det Edward Anderson

A motion was presented by Commissioner Gallagher to approve the request for Retirement benefits and monies as outlined by the Pension Benefit Coordinator for Det Anderson with the pay rank of Detective Lieutenant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

7.2 Pension Update – Dave Moran, Morgan Stanley

Dave Moran of Morgan Stanley congratulated Det Anderson on his retirement and Capt Giuliano on his promotion. Regarding the Pension Fund, he presented them with new ideas for moving the monies and new procedures for doing so. He also gave them the new balance of the funds.

At this time, Chairperson Hendricks turned the chair back to Chairperson Yarbor to continue with the meeting

8. Report of the Committee

8.1 Interview Results

At this time, Chairperson Yarbor turned the chair over to Commissioner Gallagher, Chairperson of the Personnel Committee.

Chairperson Gallagher stated that a suitable replacement for Chief upon the retirement of Chief Smullen, has been made. That is was the aim to maintain continuity that the department has and that the department of 117 men and women is blessed with talent. Capt Karajanis has been selected as the new Chief upon Chief Smullen's retirement and the completion of a contract. He also thanked the other applicants.

Chairperson Yarbor stated that the committee had no intentions of looking outside the department for a new Chief and that the process of selecting the new Chief was very interesting. The selection made for the benefit and talent of the department and the citizens of West Haven. A motion was presented by Commissioner Yarbor to promote Capt Karajanis to Chief upon the retirement of Chief Smullen and the completion of a contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously. He was congratulated by the Commissioners, Chief Smullen and all those in attendance.

A motion was then presented by Commissioner Gallagher to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

Adjourn: 7:51 pm

Minutes recorded by G. Fletcher