

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
46 CHURCH STREET
BRANFORD, CT 06405
MINUTES OF MEETING: June 9, 2025

Commissioners present:

Commissioner Patty Austin
Commissioner Janice Heggie-Margolis
Commissioner Valerie Wiel-Wilkins
Commissioner Robert Nash
Commissioner Ciociola

Also present was Police Chief Jon Mulhern and Deputy Chief Alves. Commissioner Sousoulas was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Austin at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Commissioner Ciociola to approve the minutes of May 12, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash to enter into executive session. For the record executive session was held for the following purposes: To interview and consider two candidates for the position of officer; to consider and discuss a promotion to fill a Lieutenant vacancy and to consider and approve a Leave of Absence for Officer Rubano.

Present in executive session were: Commissioners Patty Austin, Janice Heggie-Margolis, Valerie Wiel-Wilkins, Robert Nash, Ciociola; Police Chief Jon Mulhern and candidates Sophia Papa and Kyle Suraci during their respective interview.

Return to regular meeting at 6:36 p.m.

For the record no votes were taken in executive session.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash to extend an offer of employment to Sophia Papa effective July 1, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash to extend an offer of employment to Kyle Suraci effective July 2, 2025 contingent upon passing remaining requirements.

The Commission did not take any action of the promotion to fill the Lieutenant vacancy and deferred that item.

Motion made by Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins to approve the 30-day unpaid Leave of Absence for Officer Rubano. Seconded by commissioner Nash. Vote unanimous.

Report of the Chief:

Chief Mulhern provided a brief overview of the monthly statistical and training reports for May. Highlights included: slight increase in Disorderly Conduct; two DUI's; Mental Health calls are up; Domestic Disputes are steady; Family Violence is up and there were two drug overdoses. Notable arrests include Anthony Esposito, charged with Murder and Murder with Special Circumstance. One burglary at Dunkin Donuts on Leetes Island Road. Traffic Enforcement was down a bit for May. There was a minor increase in Motor Vehicle accidents.

Personnel Overview – There are four officers on different stages of FMLA; two officers at the Meriden Academy; One Dispatcher is finishing up training. As of July 1 the budget allows for two new officers. There is still one vacancy. One officer informally announced he will be retiring and Officer John Cassell will be retiring in July. He also expects one additional retirement.

Training Synopsis:

The Drone Team attended BRINC Drone Training and Officer Adriana Carrasco completed Field training.

Letters of Recognition included: Letters received recognizing Officers Abely and Pomales, Officers Johnson and Erdos and Branford Police Department.

The Chief also reported that the department participated in a charity softball game against the Branford Fire Department to benefit the Branford Counseling Center.

Building Renovation Update:

There are multiple trades working both interior and exterior. The lower-level masonry walls are in progress and electrical and plumbing rough ins. On the left side of the building there is a temporary electrical panel being installed. The lower level furniture has all been purchased. Dispatcher Consoles have been purchased.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash to adjourn the meeting at 6:51p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk