

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
33 LAUREL STREET
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06405-3644
MINUTES OF MEETING: September 11, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner John Sousoulas
Commissioner Patty Austin
Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins
Commissioner Janice Heggie-Margolis
Commissioner Christine Ciociola
Commissioner Robert Nash

Also present was Chief Mulhern and Deputy Chief Alves.

The meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Sousoulas.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to approve the minutes from June 12, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Executive Session:

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to enter into executive session at 5:31 to conduct and interview for the positions of Entry Level Officer and to consider Officer Amanda Gonzalez for the position of Supernumerary. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Present in Executive Session were: Commissioners Sousoulas, Austin, Wiel-Wilkins, Heggie-Margolis, Ciociola and Nash. Also present were Chief Mulhern, Deputy Chief Alves and Julie Kustra. Candidates Trever Mitchell Carter, Aidan Ricciadelli and Sean Healy attended executive session during their respective interviews.

Return to regular meeting at 6:22 p.m. For the record no votes were taken while in executive session.

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to extend a condition offer of employment to Trever Mitchell Carter to the position of Entry Level Officer effective September 21, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis to extend a condition offer of employment to Aidan Ricciadelli to the position of Entry Level Officer effective September 22, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Sousoulas. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to extend a condition offer of employment to Aidan Ricciadelli to the position of Entry Level Officer effective October 12, 2023 pending medical and drug test results. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to appoint Officer Amanda Gonzalez as a Supernumerary. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Report of the Chief:

Chief Mulhern provided copies of the Monthly Statistical Report and provided a brief overview. He reported that there is a large increase in Identify Theft due to reports from a cyber breach with the State of CT Unemployment Office; Motor Vehicle thefts are up year to date; Motor vehicle accidents are up from July; the number of traffic tickets and verbal warnings were up during the month of August;

Letters of Recognition and appreciation were received recognizing the following: Lt. Corrienne Carangelo; Officer Clyburn; Sgt. Romanello and Officer McCone; Officer's Cope and Clyburn; Officer Abely; Officer Beauvais; Crossing Guard Dennis Flanigan; Branford Police Department and Branford Police Union Local 459.

LT. Rorrienne Carangelo provided a report to the commission concerning the CALEA Accreditation. She provided detailed information concerning the accreditation process and future expectations for recertification.

Police Department Renovation Project - Deputy Chief Alves reported that Design Documents are expected to be completed September 27. An agreement with Eversource has been executed to assist with identifying energy efficiency opportunities within the project.

Traffic Committee:

Request to eliminate the first parking space on Thimble Island Road in front of Stony Creek Congregational Church and enforce a 25 mph speed limit. The Traffic Committee recommends no action.

Requests for Stony Creek:

- Designate the first two parking spaces by the gate to the dock for compact vehicles only. The Traffic Committee recommends referring this to the Fire Chief.
- Enforce overnight boat tie ups and unregistered boats. The Traffic Committee recommends referring this item to the Board of Selectmen
- Request resident specific parking areas. The Traffic Committee recommends no action.

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- Request for replacement of old and faded signs – The Traffic Committee recommends approval of this item.
- Request for traffic and parking enforcement – There is a full time officer in this area that issues citations - No action.

Request for No Outlet sign at the beginning of Hillside Avenue. The Traffic Committee recommends no action.

Request for “No Thru Trucks” at the corner of Flat Rock Road on the Leetes Island Road end and a “Hidden Driveway” sign in the same area. The Traffic Committee recommends no action.

Request to eliminate the handicap parking space in front of the Baptist Church on Harrison Avenue and Main Street on the east side. Move the handicap space to the west side of the street. The Traffic Committee recommends no action.

Motion made by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis to accept the Traffic Committee’s report. Seconded by Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins. Vote unanimous.

Commissioner Sousoulas recognized the events of September 11 and also commended the Police Department for their hard work and commitment.

Barbara Leete addressed the commission concerning a “Stop Sign Ahead” sign that was approved by the Traffic Committee a few months back. The sign was installed and then removed and needs to be reinstalled.

Several residents including Patricia Dugan, John Hartwell and Preston Maynard addressed the commission concerning the event at the Stony Creek Brewery and concerns with noise generated at the brewery.

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Ciociola. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk