

CITY OF WEST HAVEN, CT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, February 18, 2020

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

Raymond Collins, III, Chairman	present
Paul E. Butler, Vice-Chairman	present
Keith Sweeney	present
Peter BonTempo, Secretary	absent
Deborah B. Wright, Pension Board	present
Joseph Perno, Chief of Police	present
Carl Flemmig, Interim Deputy Chief	present
Lee Tiernan, Corporation Counsel	absent

Agenda

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to amend the agenda as follows:

- Change the year from 2018 to 2020;
- Change Item 8.1 from "disputed tow" to "disputed ticket."

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

1. Minutes for Approval

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to accept the amended minutes of February 4, 2020; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

2. Public Session

Chairman Collins asked if any member of the public wished to speak. Being none, he declared the public session closed.

3. Communications

The Commissioners reviewed the following monthly activity reports for January 2020:

- Animal Control
- Attendance
- Support Services

K-9 – Sgt. Bloom/Ike
K-9 – Ofc. Marchitto/Ado
Training
Traffic Management
Investigative Services

4. Report of the Chief

Chief Perno reported, the new grants writer is researching a grant regarding funding for the cameras in the cellblocks.

The result of continuous meetings, the City will provide other funding it has received from the State for the plumbing repairs.

5. Report of the Deputy Chief

None presented.

6. Report of the Committees

None presented.

7. Old Business

None presented.

8. New Business

8.1 Disputed Ticket – Davonna Robinson, 309 Terrace Avenue #21

Ms. Robinson addressed the Commission and explained that she had received a ticket last month during a snow event. The reason for the ticket was that she had parked less than 25 feet from the intersection. She lives in West Haven, works at the VA and works at Yale. She lives less than a mile from the hospital. She maintains that she was actually parked 34 feet from the intersection, by measurement taken by her phone app. The street markings were not visible due to the snow. She disputed the ticket online and spoke with the Traffic Officer. The Traffic Officer spoke with the issuing Officer and they were not in agreement of her claimed distance of 34 feet. She is aware of the parking regulations; and it will be a hardship for her to pay a \$50 fine as she works two jobs, is a student, and has two children.

The Commissioners discussed Ms. Robinson's situation. They also noted the parking problems in that area with the neighbors constantly complaining, and the fact that the Department has ramped up enforcement in that area.

Commissioner Sweeney visited the intersection. He noted that there is sufficient evidence to back up the Officer. The area was remeasured. He took landmarks as to where the vehicle was parked. He agrees that the orange markings were covered up that day, but his own measurements were definitely under the 25 feet.

Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to uphold the ticket but reduce the fine to \$25;
SECONDED by Commissioner Collins.

In further discussion, Commissioner Butler feels that under the conditions the ticket should be waived.

Commissioner Wright noted that she is torn between Ms. Robinson's plea and the fact that there is such a bad parking situation in that area. She agrees with the reduction in the fine.

A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** 3 Yes, 1 No (Butler).

Chief Perno advised Ms. Robinson to wait a few days until the change is reflected on the app, and then she will be able to pay online.

9. Pension Board

The police pension has been moved from Morgan Stanley to Raymond James Financial. Dave Moran continues to be the pension advisor for Raymond James.

Mr. Moran reported that all of the money has been moved over and it's set up. The account is doing great. We sent over our first bulk payment today, so that's working out as well. I will confirm that the weekly payments are coming in from the City. If it's going to Morgan Stanley, we'll automatically sweep that account every week until it's completely dry. A lot of these accounts that build up dividends and interest will come in a little bit later. Within another two to three weeks there will be nothing over there at all.

Commissioner Wright spoke with the City to confirm the address, so the weekly payments should be coming in.

Commissioner Sweeney asked Commissioner Wright to ensure that the same procedures are in place so the retirees will receive their checks on time. Mr. Moran will also contact Raymond James to ensure the end of the month checks are received by the retirees before the 1st.

10. Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Sweeney stated, I am happy to report that Commissioner Bon Tempo is home after successful surgery. He is doing well; I sent him all the good wishes of the Commission and the Chiefs.

Commissioner Wright stated, I am speaking for the West Haven Chamber women's event, so I'll e-mail the information and let you know the specifics.

There was a brief discussion regarding the March 17, 2020 meeting as there is an anticipated lack of a quorum for that evening. A decision will be made at the first meeting in March regarding rescheduling or canceling that meeting.

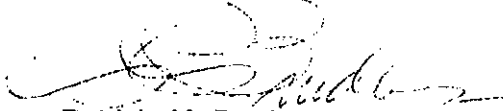
11. Executive Session

There was no discussion or action needed on agenda item 11.1 Street Crime Report, therefore no executive session was observed.

12. Adjournment

At 7:18 p.m., Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia M. Bruder
Secretary