

City of West Haven, CT
Board of Police Commissioners
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, January 17th, 2023

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Patricia C. Morady
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The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman Raymond Collins III at West Haven Police Headquarters, 200 Sawmill Road. All those present, rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

Raymond Collins III, <i>Chairman</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

Agenda

Commissioner Butler MOVED to add Item 11.1 regarding personnel under Executive Session; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Minutes

Commissioner Butler MOVED to accept the previous meeting minutes from January 3rd, 2022; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Input

Russ Kniehl, President of West Haven Retired Officers Association, 200 Sawmill Road, mentioned that he has been unable to download the agenda or minutes for the Board of Police Commissioner meetings, but that he has spoken to city councilman Bruneau who offered to investigate the issue. He mentioned that he's previously made a request for a hearing for the pension plan issue that has been ongoing for the past 7 months as it related to the language in the contract. He wanted to make sure the Board received his request for a hearing and explained that he will be pushing for a date and time to be put in place. Mr. Kniehl expressed his frustration that there hasn't been much progress in resolving the issue and that he believed the situation is being stonewalled. He explained that negotiations aren't necessary, as the main issue has to do with the interpretation of the language of the one paragraph that relates to the escalation clause. He emphasized that the Board of Police Commissioners are the ones in charge of making the final decision and that they shouldn't be persuaded by any outside factors.

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

3. Communications

3.1 Traffic Report – Month of December 2022.

4. Report of the Chief

Chief Perno explained that a new dog named Jax has joined the K-9 unit, and that he will start the academy on February 3rd.

5. Report of the Deputy Chief – No Report

6. Report of the Committees – No Report

7. Old Business - None

8. New Business - None

9. Pension Board – No Report

10. Commissioners Report - No Report

11. Executive Session

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

11.1 Personnel

Motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners entered Executive Session at 7:11 PM.

12. Return to Regular Session/Adjournment

At 7:30 PM, the Commissioners returned to regular session and adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Butler; SECONDED by Commissioner Carrano. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Briana Hojo
Recording Clerk