

**CITY OF WEST HAVEN, CT**  
**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
*Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, January 22, 2019*

---

The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:05 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**

<b>Raymond Collins, III, Chairman</b>	present
<b>Paul E. Butler, Vice-Chairman</b>	present
<b>Keith Sweeney</b>	present
<b>Peter BonTempo, Secretary</b>	present
<b>Deborah B. Wright, Pension Board</b>	present
<b>John Karajanis, Chief of Police</b>	absent
<b>Joseph Perno, Deputy Chief of Police</b>	present
<b>Lee Tiernan, Corporation Counsel</b>	absent

**ADD ONS**

Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to amend the agenda as follows:

Add to the agenda:

10.3 Executive Session – Pending Litigation

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

Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to accept the agenda as amended; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Bon Tempo. A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

**1. MINUTES**

Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to accept the minutes of January 8, 2019; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Butler. A voice vote was taken and the **MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

## **2. PUBLIC SESSION**

### Detective Sean Faughnan, President, Local 895

Det. Faughnan, on behalf of the Executive Board, congratulated Tom Flaherty for retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to the West Haven Police Department and extended best wishes as he moves on to UNH. He recounted Det. Flaherty's history in the police service, which began in the Woodbridge Police Department, and noted that his retirement is a huge loss for the West Haven Police Department.

### Walt Casey, 40 Harding Avenue

Mr. Casey recounted retiring Detective Flaherty's police service and wished him the best of luck in his new position at UNH. He noted that 20 years ago four officers transferred in to the West Haven Police Department, and today, 20 years later, people are leaving the department, and it's really a shame.

Commissioner Collins asked three times if any member of the public wished to address the Commission. Being none, he closed the public session at 7:10 p.m.

## **3. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Commission reviewed the following Communications:

- 3.1 Monthly Attendance Report – December 2018
- 3.2 K-9 Monthly Activity Report – Sgt. Bloom "Ike" – December 2018
- 3.3 K-9 Monthly Activity Report – Ofc. Standish "Cody" – December 2018
- 3.4 K-9 Monthly Activity Report – Ofc. Marchitto "Ado" – December 2018
- 3.5 Monthly Overtime Report – December 2018

Commissioner Wright noted that it's technically 49 percent because where it is 72 percent you have a lot of people trying to cover the vacant spots. Commissioner Collins stated that this was addressed at the City Council meeting.

- 3.6 Investigative Services Division Monthly Report – November 2018
- 3.7 Traffic Management Unit Monthly Report – December 2018
- 3.8 Training Division Monthly Report – December 2018
- 3.9 Letter of Appreciation – Sergeant Eric Pimer (from Joe Weber)

## **4. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE**

Deputy Chief Perno reported that he met with Corporation Counsel and attended a termination hearing at the Connecticut Department of Labor on January 18.

He has been working with Commissioner Wright regarding pension calculations and verbiage.

The first budget meeting with the department heads and City officials was held today.

On January 22, he attended the City Council meeting regarding pension and state of the department along with Commissioners Collins, Bon Tempo and Butler.

The department has a pending retirement of a pensioned officer that will take effect February 1<sup>st</sup> and will be on the agenda for February 5<sup>th</sup>.

He met with the Lieutenants and Captains regarding assignment changes with the rank of Sergeant, as well as future changes that will likely come due to promotions, etc.

The department currently stands at 108 with the previously-mentioned pending retirement. There are 6 officers in the Police Academy, two injured, one on military leave. He reported that one officer has returned from military leave and is due back to work in mid-February. One officer is awaiting a firearms qualification and will then have to complete 10 weeks of Field Training. That puts the department at 98 available and 120 budgeted.

Commissioner Wright asked Deputy Chief Perno to keep her abreast of future budget meeting dates.

Commissioner Sweeney asked Deputy Chief Perno to add a budget line item for police awards/ceremonies.

## **5. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES**

No reports.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

None presented.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Retirement of Detective Thomas Flaherty**

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to accept, with regret, the retirement of Detective Thomas Flaherty from the West Haven Police Department; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wright.

Deputy Chief Perno stated, Tom Flaherty was hired as Grade C. On 12-28-90 advanced to Grade A after completing the Department requirements. His assignments included, in addition to Patrol Division, Training Division, SRT, Statewide Narcotics Task Force, SVU, a temporary assignment into the Investigative Services in which he did such a bang-up job that he was promoted to Detective on 9-9-2011 to Grade B. He has done

the majority if not all of his tenure in the Detective Division and the Special Victims Unit. During his 20-year career he has been the recipient of numerous commendations and awards for excellent police work through our department and other recognitions. As his retired Sergeant said, it's a great loss to the PD, he comes from a true police family and he will always have a family here to come back to. Good luck, God bless, stay safe.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

## **8. PENSION BOARD**

### **8.1 Retirement of Detective Thomas Flaherty**

Commissioner Wright noted that the Commissioners have been given the retirement package for Detective Thomas Flaherty. The information came from the actuary.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to accept the retirement package; SECONDED by Butler. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Detective Flaherty's last day of work was January 17<sup>th</sup>; first day of retirement was January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Wright MOVED to add item 8.2 Dave Moran; SECONDED by Commissioner Sweeney. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

### **8.2 Dave Moran**

Mr. Moran reported the state of the Pension Fund to the Commissioners. The fund has recouped a significant amount of the money that was lost last year in a very quick period of time – it is still recovering from the fourth quarter numbers. For the fiscal year, the fund was 8.6 percent above the actual return target. He discussed asset allocation strategy and looks forward to a successful coming year.

Mr. Casey asked Mr. Moran how his compensation is calculated. Mr. Moran explained that it is based upon the value of the fund; he gets a percentage of each different portfolio. It is performance-based.

## **9. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

No reports.

## 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 7:27 p.m., Commissioner Wright MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

- 10.1 ISD – Special Victims Unit Monthly Activity Report – November 2018
- 10.2 ISD – Street Crime Unit Monthly Activity Report – December 2018
- 10.3 Pending Litigation

and invited Deputy Chief Perno to remain in the Executive Session; SECONDED by Commissioner Sweeney. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

A five-minute recess was observed to clear the room.

## 11. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 8:20 p.m., Commissioner Wright MOVED to return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Commissioner Bon Tempo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED unanimously.

There were no votes taken in Executive Session.

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