

City of West Haven, CT
Board of Police Commissioners
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, February 21st, 2023

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The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 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 8.2 to the agenda regarding a request for advanced sick leave for Officer Ahmed Arnold; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Minutes

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to accept the previous minutes from the meeting on Tuesday, February 7th, 2023; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Input

Sean Faughnan, President of the Local 895, 200 Sawmill Road, spoke to comment on the commitment and dedication that Officer Marchitto has shown towards the department. He explained that Officer Marchitto has done an excellent job as an officer and as his role as an instructor, while earning the respect from his fellow officers. He wished Officer Marchitto the most success in his new position.

Stanley Parizo spoke to testify to the great job that Officer Marchitto has done and reminisced about the times their paths have crossed, especially during various instructional trainings. He wished Officer Marchitto the best and congratulated him on his promotion.

Another gentleman addressed the board to echo the great job Officer Marchitto has done for the department. He emphasized all the challenges and struggles that Officer Marchitto has overcome and he explained that he is grateful for all the moments they have spent together. He congratulated Officer Marchitto on his promotion.

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 Management Report – January 2023.

4. Report of the Chief – No Report

5. Report of the Deputy Chief – No Report

6. Report of the Committees – No Report

7. Old Business - None

8. New Business

8.1 Promotion to the Rank of Sgt. – Ofc. Thomas Marchitto, Effective February 27th, 2023.

Deputy Chief Flemmig offered the following remarks:

“Officer Thomas Marchitto has been a member of the West Haven Police Department for approximately 9 years and for the past 4 years he has excelled working as a K9 Handler in the Patrol Division, with his partner Ado, where they have been instrumental in the apprehension of many dangerous felons and in the recovery of firearms, narcotics, and stolen property.

In addition to his K9 responsibilities Ofc. Marchitto is a valued member of our SRT Unit and is a highly respected Training Instructor. He takes great pride in his performance of these assignments and will go above and beyond in his preparation for these duties, by often going to school or training, sometimes out of state, on his own time and without seeking any financial compensation.

Officer Marchitto is highly respected by the rank and file and is a valued member of this agency. His enthusiasm and sense of duty paired with his experience and job knowledge will make him an excellent supervisor, who will get the best out of his subordinates. He will have a positive influence on those he supervises and his leadership, hard work, and dedication will be greatly appreciated by the Command Staff.

Tom congratulations on your promotion to the rank of Sergeant.”

Chief Perno spoke to echo the sentiments that Detective Faughnan mentioned earlier regarding Officer Marchitto's dedication to the department, especially for his effort with obtaining the equipment from Virginia Beach. He explained that Officer Marchitto's passion for his training and his duty as a police officer is special and unique. He advised Officer Marchitto to continue to learn in his new position and to learn from his supervisors and those around him.

Commissioner Wright congratulated Officer Marchitto and commented that him continuously asking questions and his willingness to always learn has paid off and has gotten him to where he is now.

Chairman Collins also congratulated Officer Marchitto and commented on the courage and dedication he has shown the department, especially when handling the protest that occurred in front of the department.

Commissioner Butler MOVED to approve Officer Thomas Marchitto's promotion to the rank of Sergeant, effective February 27th, 2023; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2 Request for Advanced Sick Leave – Officer Ahmed Arnold

Commissioner Carrano MOVED to approve Officer Arnold's request for advanced sick leave; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Pension Board

9.1 Dave Moran – Raymond James

Commissioner Wright explained that Mr. Moran couldn't attend the meeting due to a family emergency. She explained that Mr. Moran and herself met the previous week and that they are planning to present some items in March. She also commended all the officers who responded to the call that occurred earlier in the day on Washington and Elm. She expressed that she was proud of the officers who responded to the call and that she is appreciative of all they do and the fearlessness they exhibit when out in the field.

10. Executive Session

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

10.1 Street Crime Unit – January 2023.

Motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners entered Executive Session at 7:26 PM.

11. Return to Regular Session/Adjournment

At 7:26 PM, the Commissioners returned to regular session and adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Wright; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana Hojo
Recording Clerk