

City of West Haven, CT
Board of Police Commissioners

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, June 1, 2021

The regular meeting of the West Haven Board of Police Commissioners was called to order at 7:02 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
Keith Sweeney, <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 Flemming, <i>Deputy Chief</i>	Present

Agenda

Chairman Collins introduced item 8.3 to the agenda regarding a Juneteenth event held by the West Haven Mayor's Office on Saturday, June 19th. Chief Perno **MOVED** to add the item to the agenda; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sweeney. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Minutes for Approval

Commissioner Suggs voiced a correction to be made to the date on the previous meeting minutes on Tuesday, May 18th, 2021. He proposed the amendment of the minutes to read Tuesday, May 18th, 2021 instead of Tuesday, May 4th, 2021. Commissioner Sweeney **MOVED** to accept the minutes as amended; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously

2. Public Input

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

The following monthly report for April 2021:

3.1 Attendance Report

2021 JUN - 7 PM 3:05

4. Report of the Chief

The Chief reported that meetings have been underway with vendors for the implementation of body and dash cameras. He is still waiting to speak with one or two more vendors.

The Chief stated that the bids returned for the building cameras and exterior of the building. He mentioned that he is waiting to speak to Doug Davis, the individual in charge of purchasing, and Rob Sandella, the outgoing purchasing agent, regarding the awarding of the bid.

He is planning to present more information at the next meeting on June 15th regarding a promotion for the detective position that was received in the budget starting July 1st.

There has been a renewal for the push for the acquisition of a rescue vehicle. The acquisition process is currently awaiting support by the State to move forward.

Commissioner Sweeney asked if state representatives have been contacted to help move the rescue vehicle effort along. The Chief stated that a push is necessary to get the effort going.

Commissioner Wright inquired if it is necessary to receive three bids for the cameras. The Chief stated it is not necessary. The equipment was on the state bid, and additional bids were needed for the installers. Equipment was chosen based on previous meetings held, and they were informed of items that were not needed. A part of the camera budget was set aside to account for the hiring of an installer.

Commissioner Butler asked if the local installer would be able to install the equipment. The Chief answered that a different installer needs to be hired because it is outside of the capabilities of the local installer.

Commissioner Sweeney asked about why they weren't receiving emails for the past two meetings with the agendas. The Chief stated that he will be working on sending them out.

5. Report of the Deputy Chief – No report

6. Report of the Committees – No report

7. Old Business – None presented

8. New Business

8.1 Disputed Parking Ticket – Lauren Borwick 2/7/2021

Since Lauren Borwick who asked for the hearing was not present, Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to uphold the fine of the ticket; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2 Disputed Ordinance – Joseph Sette – 2/16/2021

Animal Control Officer Denise Ford provided a brief description on the disputed ordinance claim regarding the dogs belonging to Mr. Sette at 35 Allings Crossing Road, West Haven, CT. She said Mr. Sette is a repeat offender who has received several warnings and breaks. The fourth official but actual fifth time the dogs were returned to him, Officer Ford issued him a roaming ticket-times-two-for-the two dogs and suggested that he get a tether. She mentioned that she gave him a break on that ticket because there were two small children in the home. She could have given him the failure to pick up after as well as failure to license the dogs, which are still not licensed. Mr. Sette's argument was that the neighbor who was in North Carolina all winter allows his dogs to roam on their property on the corner of Phillips Drive and Allings Crossing Road. However, pictures and videos show that the dogs roam further down Phillips Drive, nowhere near the property of the neighbor who gave Mr. Sette permission for his dogs to roam. Multiple neighbors in the Phillips Drive area have been complaining of the two large dogs roaming, defecating, and not properly being kept on their property. Officer Ford asked that the ticket be upheld and she has warned Mr. Sette that the next time the ticket will be for the full \$600 with no breaks.

Chairman Collins asked Chief Perno if the department K9 dogs, some of the most highly trained dogs, are allowed to roam. The Chief responded that even K9 dogs are not allowed to roam.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to uphold the tickets; SECONDED by Commissioner Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

8.3 Road Closures

The Juneteenth event will be held by the West Haven Mayor's Office on Saturday, June 19th from 11 AM to 2 PM at Brent Watt Park. The set-up time will begin at 8:30 AM and take-down will be at 3:00 PM. Rockview Street at Tile Street, Kilborn Street just after the multifamily homes, and Isadore Street will be blocked off. Parking will be available at the University of New Haven.

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to proceed with the road closures for the Juneteenth event; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Pension Board – No report

10. Commissioners Report – No report

Commissioner Suggs inquired to the Chief if there will be an officer present on the Juneteenth event. The Chief responded that he would contact Councilwoman Hamilton to discuss the matter further as it is a city event.

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Sweeney MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following monthly report:

11.1 Street Crime Report – Month of April 2021

Motion was SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Return to Regular Session/Adjournment

At 7:13 PM the Commissioners returned to regular session and adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Sweeney; SECONDED by Commissioner Butler. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Briana Hojo, Recording Clerk