

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 20, 2009

1. Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:01 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

S. Smith
J. San Angelo
R. Roper
Mayor Mezzo

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson

ALTERNATES:

C. Ford
D. Branco
A. Barnes

ABSENT:

L. Mayfield
B. Whitaker
W. Bertotti

Public: 1
Staff: 10
Press: 0

(Mayor Mezzo, R. Roper and J. San Angelo entered the meeting at 7:04)

2. Chairman Smith led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. **ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:**

Chairman Smith appointed D. Branco, C. Ford and A. Barnes as voting members in the absence of L. Mayfield, R. Roper and B. Whitaker respectively.

4. R. Roper arrived and C. Ford was no longer a voting member.
5. A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by R. Roper to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on September 15, 2009.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

6. A motion by D. Branco and seconded by J. San Angelo to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on October 5, 2009.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to nominate Steve Smith as Chairman of the Naugatuck Board of Police Commissioners.

Discussion: S. Smith accepted the nomination. J. San Angelo discussed the duties of the Chairman and the need for the Commission to work in a unified manner. S. Smith assured him that his intentions are similar. Mayor Mezzo informed the Commission of a Freedom of Information meeting being held on October 22, 2009 at Town Hall. Guest speaker will be Tom Hennick.

Vote: Unanimous

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by Mayor Mezzo to nominate Ralph Roper as Vice Chairman of the Naugatuck Board of Police Commissioners.

Discussion: R. Roper declined the nomination.

J. San Angelo rescinded his motion.

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by D. Branco to nominate Linda Mayfield as Vice Chairman of the Naugatuck Board of Police Commissioners.

Discussion: The Commissioners were certain L. Mayfield would accept the nomination if she were present.

Vote: Unanimous

A motion by S. Smith and seconded by J. San Angelo to nominate R. Roper as Secretary of the Naugatuck Board of Police Commissioners.

Discussion: R. Roper accepted the nomination.

Vote: Unanimous

8. PRESENTATION OF TEST RESULTS FOR THE SERGEANT'S PROMOTIONAL EXAM:

Chief Edson presented sealed envelopes to Chairman Smith and Union President Bryan Cammaratta with the results of the Sergeant's promotional exam. All Commissioners viewed the results prior to the announcement. Chairman Smith stated that Officer Mark Pettinicchi had achieved the highest cumulative score for the rank of Sergeant. The Union requested the names of all of the candidates and their ranking on the list. The names are as follows:

2. Bart Deeley
3. Michael Favale
4. Peter Bosco
5. John Hutt
6. Derek Poundstone

Everyone applauded the announcements and offered congratulations to Mark Pettinicchi.

9. Mayor Mezzo left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sergeant Pettinicchi thanked his wife for her support.

11. The Union members discovered a discrepancy in the test scores and exited the meeting. Chief Edson was asked to join them outside of the meeting.

12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING EMAIL COMMUNICATION:

Chairman Smith strongly urged the Commissioners to use emails for minimal conversations and not go beyond normal discussions. The FOI clearly states certain email correspondence can be construed as a meeting. He also recommended that each Commissioner check their address list to delete former Police Commissioners who are still receiving Police Commission emails.

13. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

14. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

This item was tabled until later in the meeting due to Chief Edson's absence from the meeting. He was outside the meeting room with Union members.

15. CORRESPONDENCE:

Robert Zwang, Executive Director, The Federation, Jewish Communities of Western CT, Inc., thanked Officer Paul Markette for his presence and support during his assignment in late August with three dignitaries from the Middle East.

New Canaan Chief of Police Edward Nadriczny thanked Captain Jeremiah Scully for his assistance as a panelist on the oral board for the rank of lieutenant.

Charles Marino, President, Naugatuck Historical Society, thanked Captain Jeremiah Scully, Officer Jay Pugliese and the Police Explorers for their participation at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Naugatuck Historical Society.

Daniel O'Brien thanked Officers Michael Favale and Jasen Markette for their assistance during an incident on September 6, 2009.

Concepcion Casella wrote a letter on behalf of her parents Anonio and Caridad Pereira, 152 Hoadley Street, regarding a parking problem in front of their home. Chief Edson reported that this issue had been investigated and no further action is necessary. The Police Commission will send a response to the residents.

Diane Boylan, Coordinator of Services, Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury, Inc., thanked Officer Daniel Norck for his support to the victims of domestic violence.

Rosa Conti, 61 Country Hill Road, requested the installation of a traffic mirror on Horton Hill Road across from Country Hill Road due to a blind spot in the area.

Steve Loban, 100 Barn Finch Circle, asked for improvements to the area of Horton Hill Road and Country Hill Road due to dangerous road conditions. Chairman Smith referred this and the previously read letter to Chief Edson for a traffic study.

All correspondence will be placed into the personnel files of the above-mentioned officers.

16. A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by R. Roper to **re-open Agenda Item #7 "Presentation of Test Results for the Sergeant's Promotional Exam"**.

Discussion: It was determined that the performance evaluation scores were not accurate and did not reflect the changes agreed to at the Special Meeting held on October 5, 2009.

Vote: Unanimous

17. **PRESENTATION OF TEST RESULTS FOR THE SERGEANT'S PROMOTIONAL EXAM:**

The list of test scores provided by HR Director Deschesnes was incorrect because the performance evaluation portion failed to represent the changes agreed upon by the Police Commission. Bart Deeley, Michael Favale and John Hutt each received an additional point at the Special Meeting held on October 5, 2009.

Chief Edson accepted the promotion results with the following amendment to the performance evaluation portion:

Bart Deeley 13.50 points

Michael Favale 12.75 points

John Hutt 12.75 points

The Union supported the Chief's changes and wanted the record to reflect this action. The changes did not alter the ranking. Discussion took place regarding the distress caused by the miscalculations. Chairman Smith suggested sending a letter to Mayor Mezzo to express the Commission's discontent with HR Director Deschesnes. J. San Angelo thought a letter should be sent to the Board of Mayor and Burgesses.

A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by J. San Angelo to accept the promotional exam results as amended.

Discussion: C. Ford suggested that in the future, Commissioners should receive any amendments made regarding police personnel. Chief Edson asked Sgt. Steven Hunt to forward copies of the amended evaluations to him.

Vote: Unanimous

18. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

19. OPEN ITEMS: NONE

20. CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by D. Branco to accept the Chief's monthly reports.

Discussion: Chief Edson reported that three of the four police candidates will enter the police academy on Friday, October 23. The fourth candidate's background check has not been completed due to the fact he resides out of state. Training, Overtime, Education Increments and workers' compensation was discussed. J. San Angelo questioned when an Animal Control officer would be hired. Chief Edson stated that background checks were underway.

Vote: Unanimous

21. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by D. Branco to deny the alarm violation appeal by Stop'N Save, 711 Rubber Avenue.

Discussion: The malfunction of equipment is a violation. A letter will be sent to Stop'N Save for the denial and recommendation for repair of service.

Vote: Unanimous

Chairman Smith said he will address the subcommittees at the next meeting. He would like three Commissioners on each subcommittee. J. San Angelo expressed his concern with the way subcommittee meetings are conducted. Chairman Smith stated that subcommittees can be empowered to take action, make recommendations and vote.

22. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

J. San Angelo asked Chief Edson if he was training a replacement for Detective Blanchard if he chose to retire. Chief Edson replied that there are other officers who help Detective Blanchard but no one has been formally trained.

R. Roper thanked Chief Edson for his support for a concerned resident.

C. Ford congratulated Sergeant Pettinicchi and newly elected Commissioners Smith, Mayfield and Roper.

Chairman Smith congratulated Sergeant Pettinicchi and all of the officers who took the sergeant's exam. He informed the Commissioners of an upcoming meeting for CT Police Commissioners. He asked Chief Edson if the stop signs that have been vandalized can be cleaned. Chief Edson said he will take care of it.

D. Branco asked Sgt. Steven Hunt if the telemarketers soliciting money on behalf of the Union are legitimate. Sgt. Hunt confirmed the legitimacy of the fund drive and explained the philanthropic uses of the money.

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS REGARDING JASEN MARKETTE:

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by D. Branco to enter into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. inviting in Chief Edson and the Alternates.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

24. Executive Session ended at 8:35 p.m.

25. A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by D. Branco at 8:36 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at the Town Hall, Naugatuck, CT.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous.

ATTEST:

Steven Smith, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission

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