

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 20, 2015

1. Chairman Savoy called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

Stephanie Savoy
Ralph Roper
Linda Mayfield
Steven Smith
James San Angelo

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Deputy Chief Joshua Bernegger
Burgess Rocky Vitale

ALTERNATES:

Andy Barnes

Staff: 1

Press: 0

Public: 0

ABSENT:

Mayor Mezzo

2. Chairman Savoy led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS: NONE
4. A motion by R. Roper and seconded by J. San Angelo to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on September 15, 2015.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to keep the current Police Commission officers as they are.

Discussion: All of the Commission officers had expressed an interest in retaining the positions they held.

Vote: Unanimous

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rocky Vitale, 180 East Waterbury Road, asked the Commission to assist St. Mary's Church in a traffic matter. The church has sold its convent building to Vinnie's Pizza and has concerns with the traffic flow on Curtiss Street. He said the church would like to end Curtiss Street at Griffen Street so vehicles can't go through the church parking lot. It was determined he should first address the Street Commission in order to discuss closing a street then return to the Police Commission. Chief Edson said the Police Department can advise on alternate traffic patterns but not on closing streets.

7. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

8. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GRIEVANCE #2001-06:

Sergeant Dan Norck, union vice-president, spoke on behalf of Sergeant Poundstone who was absent from the meeting. Conversation took place regarding the written warning of "conduct unbecoming an officer" and the negative connotation it has over "failure to supervise". Chief Edson and Deputy Chief Bernegger explained the policies regarding this matter and the fact this was Sergeant Poundstone's second time being reprimanded for a similar offense. He was also given an opportunity, along with union president Sergeant Colin McAllister, to discuss this issue with management but failed to do so.

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by S. Smith to uphold the Chief's decision to deny grievance #2001-06.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

9. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A motion by S. Smith and seconded by L. Mayfield to accept the Chief's monthly reports.

Discussion: Chief Edson informed the Commission that Human Resource Director John Lawlor has begun the process of separating Officer Danielle Parady from her employment with the borough of Naugatuck. Long term disability and her physician have concurred on the improbability of her return as a police officer. Chief Edson wanted the Commission to be aware of their possible involvement in the outcome. Everyone was sympathetic and suggested alternate options for Officer Parady. S. Smith commented on the amount of overtime expended in September for replacement of personnel on patrol shift. Chief Edson said this is a serious problem due to budget cutbacks and vacant positions. S. Smith also questioned the significant shortage in the Gas and Oil Account. This is due to the pre-pay purchase of gasoline for the town for one year. Money will be credited each month when departments are billed for their usage.

Vote: Unanimous

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

Charles Sherwood, Director, South Central Criminal Justice Administration, thanked Chief Edson for allowing Officer Danielle Bailey to serve as a panelist on an oral board for Recruit Police Officer.

John Aselton, President, Officer Brian A. Aselton Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. thanked Chief Edson for the support of his organization and for the assistance provided by motor Officer Nicholas Kehoss.

West Hartford Chief of Police Tracey Grove thanked Chief Edson for allowing Deputy Chief Bernegger to participate in the oral examining board for the Captain promotional process. He said Deputy Chief Bernegger's knowledge and experience were invaluable in the selection process.

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

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

12. OPEN ITEMS: NONE

13. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES: NONE

14. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

J. San Angelo said he will be talking to Mayor Mezzo about Officer Parady.

S. Smith said he is looking forward to another year of serving on the Commission.

L. Mayfield said there will probably be a lot of flak regarding the decision with Officer Parady. She wants help for her to transition into another job.

15. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by S. Smith at 7:42 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at the Naugatuck Police Department.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:

Stephanie Savoy, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission