

Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners
Mayor Harry W. Rilling
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons
Commissioner Kelly Straniti

CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
December 21, 2020
VIA ZOOM

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling; Commissioner Collier-Clemmons; Commissioner Straniti

STAFF: Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Deputy Chief James Walsh

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:32PM. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020

On page 4, delete “Mayor Rilling noted that during the executive session the commission did speak”

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020 AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments this afternoon.

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OPERATIONS REPORT

Patrol Staffing

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said for the month of November there were currently 175 sworn personnel with six patrolmen vacancies and Officer Tim Blasko retired. He said that Sergeant Dinho was promoted to Lieutenant, Detective Cisero was promoted to Sergeant and Officer Ribisl was promoted to Detective. He said the sworn personnel used 174 sick days, 39 workers compensations days and one officer was on extended workmen's compensation. Deputy Chief Walsh said the activity in the Detective Bureau remains steady and that on November 4th there was an attempted robbery of an Uber driver at Soundview and Cliff Street where a gun was displayed, on November 5th a subject was stabbed in the neck during an argument at 22 Bouton Street and an arrest was made and on November 14th there were shots fired at 16 Ivy Place and that the house was struck and the evidence was recovered and the investigation is ongoing.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that Special Services remained active and also assisted with Covid-19 enforcement along with the Health Department and that there were six nights of compliance inspections. He said that three officers were on Covid quarantine protocol.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the Special Victims Unit also remained busy and there are several ongoing sex assault investigations.

Deputy Chief Walsh said there were 113 infractions for Selective Enforcement which has decreased in October. He said during the distracted driving enforcement 8 tickets were given for cell phone use at various locations which has also decreased from October.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Training Report- November

Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said that they are in the process of finishing review credit training to complete the officer's certifications. She said of note they are continuing the ECU team monthly training and the emergency medical responder recertification training.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Tuition Reimbursement- Deputy Chief Susan Zecca

****COMMISSIONER COLLIER CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR DEPUTY CHIEF SUSAN ZECCA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,664.00**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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Course Approval- Deputy Chief Susan Zecca

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE COURSE SELECTION AS PRESENTED FOR DEPUTY CHIEF SUSAN ZECCA.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADD AN ITEM TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE COURSE FOR ORGANIZATIONS THEORY AND MANAGEMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE SAME COURSE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$893.75 FOR LIEUTENANT ZWICKLER.**

Commissioner Collier- Clemmons said that Lieutenant Zwickler has been before the commission in the past so he knows the process and requested that he be reminded that he needs to have the course approved prior to him completing the course and requesting a reimbursement.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Retirement- Officer Irving Bolling

Chief Kulhawik said that Officer Irving Bolling will be retiring on January 1, 2021, after almost 33 years of service. Mayor Rilling asked if he is on the DROP plan. Chief Kulhawik said “no”. The commission congratulated Officer Bolling and offered their thanks for his years of service.

Complimentary Letters

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from Peter Berman for Officer Ribisl and Officer Serrano for responding to a panic alarm at his residence and that he was pleased with their response and expressed his appreciation.

Chief Kulhawik said there was a post on Facebook for Officer Busch and Officer Acosta for responding to a medical call for a heart attack from the son of the patient but unfortunately he had passed away but thanked the officers for their professionalism.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary letter for Detective Maloney for an email he received from someone from out of town who had placed an order with a business and was having trouble getting a refund on their product and Detective Maloney was able to get their money back.

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Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from Thelma Allen that did not identify who the officer was but was regarding an individual that was confused and the officer was able to determine who they were and returned them home safely.

Chief Kulhawik said that Officer Aldarondo received a complimentary note from an individual who was involved in a stabbing at the Hilton Inn on August 25, 2020 and stated he believes that Officer Aldarondo saved his life.

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a complimentary email from the hospital regarding Officer Lusniak for his response to a medical call and expressed their compliments.

Chief Kulhawik said he received emails from a couple of residents in East Norwalk highlighting Officer Lovallo's traffic enforcement and how he has made a huge difference with the traffic situations that they had brought to his attention.

Deputy Chief Zecca said she received a complimentary phone call regarding Officer Billingslea and how she had handled a custodial interference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION OF PROPOSED OFFICERS, INCLUDING A REVIEW OF THEIR BACKGROUND APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Executive session began 4:12PM.

Executive session ended at 5:09PM.

There were no motions made and no votes were taken.

**** COMMISSIONER-COLLIER CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOUR CANDIDATES TO BE HIRED ON JANUARY 4, 2021 (JASMINE ALVARAZ, SCOTT RUSSO, PETER HEALY AND AUSTIN SAMPLE) AND FOR THE POST ACADEMY ON JANUARY 8, 2021 PENDING THE MEDICAL AND DRUG SCREENING REPORTS.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dilene Byrd