

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 October 19, 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 7:57PM. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

On page 4, change "recertification's" to "recertifications"

On Page 4, change "and" to "A"

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment this evening.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD THE OFFICER OF THE MONTH TO THE AGENDA.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RECOGNITION

September Officer of the Month: Officer Brian Barrett

Chief Kulhawik said there was an incident that occurred on September 25, 2020, just before 3:00PM where a woman was driving on Strawberry Hill Avenue and was approached by an individual who appeared to be on some type of PCP and had entered her vehicle and starting

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grabbing her and her child. Officer Barrett was working an extra duty assignment nearby and saw the commotion and pulled the individual out of the car and with the assistance of Darren Milligan who is a retired officer from Trumbull and another gentlemen were able to get him into custody and was charged.

The commissioners congratulated Officer Barrett and requested that letters also be sent to Darren Milligan and the other the gentlemen that helped assist.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Patrol Staffing

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said for the month of September there were currently 178 sworn personnel with three patrolmen vacancies. He said the sworn personnel used 174.5 sick days, 20.5 workers compensations days and two officers were on extended workmen's compensation.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the activity in the Detective Bureau remains steady and there were two significant instances which included a shooting on Woodward Avenue, and a robbery at Flax Hill Park and it was determined that the same group of individuals were responsible for both crimes. Officers from the Special Services Division made the arrest.

Deputy Chief Walsh said there were 14 burglaries for the month of September which is down but there has been a recent spike as of late.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that Special Services closed out a significant investigation with the Bridgeport Field Office and the FBI and recovered seven fire arms and 80 grams of fentanyl. They also concluded an investigation of Malcolm Williams who had five arrest warrants and is an active drug dealer.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the School Resource Officers have been busy with school being back in session, and two warrants were executed by the Special Victims Unit in regards to an ongoing child pornography investigation.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that there was an uptick in activity to Selective Enforcement and the Traffic Unit issued 48 citations, and there were 49 stops in total which included Belden Hill, Rome Street, Keeler Avenue and Duck Pond Road in response to citizen complaints. There was a total of 159 total infractions for the month.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Marine Division summer activity and said the Marine Division consisted of Sergeant Lapak, Officer Michael Silva, Officer Nyquist and Officer Jose Silva. He said it was a busy summer because it was a busy boating season and they issued 22 citations for marine related violations, had 13 arrests, and 191 calls for service from May 1, 2020 until September 30, 2020.

Deputy Chief Walsh said there were 4003 calls for service for the Patrol Division in September.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Training Report- September

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Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said they are finally back to in person training and have started some of the review credit training that has been on hold due to Covid-19. She said they have also done ECU training, a good amount of firearms qualifications, low light and use of force training, legal updates and NCIC recertification. She said a supervisor training was held for things related to the Police Accountability Bill and leadership as well as resilience training. Additionally, this week the noise meter training has started which had been on hold also due to Covid-19.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Tuition Reimbursement- Sergeant Joe Dinho

****COMMISSIONER COLLIER CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERGEANT JOE DINHO IN THE AMOUNT OF \$337.50.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DROP Request- Detective Timothy Marquis

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP REQUEST FOR DETECTIVE TIMOTHY MARQUIS EFFECTIVE FROM DECEMBER 1, 2020 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2025.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Retirement- Officer Timothy Blasko

Chief Kulhawik said that officer Blasko will be retiring effective November 1, 2020 due to the current climate and the state legislative actions and he felt it was time for him to leave police work.

Chief Kulhawik said that Officer Crawford has also informed him that he will be leaving for the same reasons effective October 25, 2020 to take a position with the Port St. Lucy Florida Police Department. He said he is a great officer and he is sorry to see him go.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Complimentary Letters

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary letter from Attorney Riccio who is the Attorney of a victim thanking Detective Fitzmaurice for his outstanding work handling a difficult situation.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary letter from the Grace Farms Foundation thanking Sergeant Gulino for assisting in a seminar on domestic violence.

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Chief Kulhawik said he received a unanimous email thanking the department and the officers for their outstanding work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- DISABILITY PENSION REQUEST- OFFICER KELLY HOLLISTER AND STAFFING REVIEW

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ENTER INTO
EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Executive session began 8:22PM.

Executive session ended at 8:37PM.

There were no motions made and no votes were taken.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT THE
DISABILITY PENSION FOR OFFICER KELLY HOLLISTER EFFECTIVE OCTOBER
20, 2020.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayor Rilling noted that during the executive session the commission did speak with Officer Hollister who is very upset that she was having to end her career with the police department much earlier than she had anticipated. During the executive session Chief Kulhawik mentioned how effective she was not only as a police officer, but as a School Resource Officer and we as a Commission want to wish her extremely well. He said she will be missed and the commission has accepted this request with extreme regrets.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8.38PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dilene Byrd