

Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons
Commissioner Tony Lopez

CITY OF NORWALK BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING July 18, 2022

ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Lopez; Commissioner Collier-Clemmons

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

Commissioner Lopez called the meeting to order at 4:58PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- JUNE 27, 2022

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION – COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

OPERATIONS REPORT

PATROL STAFFING

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said as of June 30, 2022, the staffing was at 176 sworn personnel leaving 5 vacancies in patrol. He said a total of 195.25 sick days and 244 workers compensation days were used by sworn personnel, and 11 officers are on long term workers compensation injuries.

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SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Detective Bureau activity in June and said it was active with all the background investigations for police applicants, and they also investigated a subject for playing Russian Roulette with a handgun and was arrested after a self-inflicted injury. He said they are also investing the credit union robbery at the hospital that occurred in June.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Special Services reported on the activity for June and said that 22 cases were opened, 13 felony arrests were made, and 11 arrest warrants were executed.

US Marshal TFO David Geismar remains busy and apprehended a fugitive that was wanted for armed robbery out of Florida. He said that two liquor compliance checks were also done on Washington Street with the State Liquor Patrol.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Special Victims activity and said that 26 cases were opened and remained busy at the end of the school year and made four felony arrests, four misdemeanor arrests and issued one search warrant. They were also busy with the security preparation program for both the high school and middle school graduations, invested a 72-year-old with dementia and was located successfully and organized the DARE summer camp which is always a successful program.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the traffic unit made 54 stops, issued 33 citations, issued 20 written warnings and one verbal warning and some of the selective enforcement locations which are mostly driven by resident complaints and were Hunt Street, East Avenue @ Lockwood, Fox Run @ Devonshire and Deepwood @ Knollwood Street, Winfield @ Duckpond Road, Marvin Street and East Rocks Road @ Bayne Street.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the activity for Community Policing and Community Services and said they were busy planning the Juneteenth celebration and attended the Clinton Avenue volleyball meeting with Chief Kulhawik and Mayor Rilling, organized the peace run, the prayer walk and the fireworks preparation.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the total criminal arrests for June 2022, was 163 and patrol division calls for service was 3,871. He highlighted the citations that were given in June and said that 118 total citations were issued.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

JUNE TRAINING REPORT

Deputy Chief Zecca reported on the training report and said that the ESU Tactical response team, crisis negotiation team and the SCUBA team all had their monthly training. She said for the review credit training they were finishing the cycle for the officers and had a substantial amount of officers do their NCIC recertifications for this month. She said the annual training for use of force and body warning camera has begun as well as the training on the in-car cameras. She reported on the specialized training and said that one officer attended MOI training (methods of instruction) to become a certified police instructor and two of the detectives attended advanced interview school. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked if all the cars now have in car cameras. Deputy Chief Zecca said that currently

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approximately 40 cars have cameras, and an additional 15 cars will have cameras installed over the next few weeks, and once all the installations have been completed, they will determine if more are needed due to budget constraints.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Mariah Danielle Ventrella
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Matthew Shizume
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Omar Rivera
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Lillian Martinez
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Kaden Darrow
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Justin Cullmer
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Corey Auten
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Michael Macari
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Lam Nguyen
Bachelor's Degree Stipend- Officer Brett Deri

Commissioner Collier-Clemmons said she has one concern about officer Macari because there is not a copy of his degree and only have a letter that he completed all of the requirements on May 20, 2022, however, the degree date on the official diploma will be August 13, 2022, and asked if this will cause any problems by approving his stipend now even though his degree will not be valid until August. Chief Kulhawik said that is up to the commission, but he has successfully completed all the requirements and can be approved effective August 13, 2022.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE STIPENDS FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MICHAEL MACARI AND TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR MICHAEL MACARI ON AUGUST 13, 2022.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from the Stewart McKinney National Wildlife regarding the marine police assistance for transporting volunteers back and forth to Sheffield Island for a major cleanup.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from the Rowan Center applauding the efforts of Officer Tyrone Boyd on two occasions and for the work that he did with victims and the compassion that he showed and how he handled their cases.

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Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from the family of Evelyn Colon and said that Evelyn was murdered many years ago and is a cold case and the cold case unit took the case over and reviewed it, and Detective Puglisi did extensive work on it and the family was very appreciative of his efforts in trying to obtain a warrant for the suspect but unfortunately at this time has not been approved for several reasons.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from a resident that had attended a community forum on current issues and were very appreciative of Lieutenant Dinho's comments.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from a family who had won a ride on a police boat at one of the auctions and thanked Lieutenant Blake officer Lee on how he interacted with the family.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from the Lightfoot Running Club regarding the excellent work and attitude of Lieutenant Melissa Lepore who was working the traffic control for their road race.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from the chief of the Westport Police Department thanking the motorcycle and marine unit for assisting them with their fireworks. He went to say as in previous years, Sergeant Lapak, Detective Lapak, Officer Lee and Officer Wasilewski were prompt, efficient, and professional.

ADJOURNMENT

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd