

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

CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
November 18, 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 4:05PM. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2020

Remove the second motion throughout.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2020 AS AMENDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment this afternoon.

RECOGNITION

October Officer of the Month: Detective William Maloney
Chief Kulhawik said on October 28, 2020, he received a letter from a resident regarding an investigation that Detective Maloney had conducted regarding an online fraud that was perpetrated against her in which over \$31,000 was stolen from her.

Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons
Commissioner Kelly Straniti

Detective Maloney investigated and although he was not able to make an arrest he was able to recover over \$31,390 of the money that was stolen. She expressed her gratitude on how he had handled the case and considered it a gift because she had assumed the money was lost. The commissioners congratulated Detective William Maloney.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Patrol Staffing

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said for the month of October there were currently 176 sworn personnel with five patrolmen vacancies and Officer Cristina Capela and Officer Kelly Hollister retired. He said the sworn personnel used 164 sick days, 30.5 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 Detective Fitzmaurice had done a significant investigation into smash and grab robberies and executed search warrants and had identified the perpetrator.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that Special Services remained active and also assisted with Covid-19 enforcement with the inspections of the restaurants.

Deputy Chief Walsh said the Special Victims Unit also remained busy and there are a lot of adjustments with the schools closing and SRO's remaining active in the school system and helping kids with remote learning.

Deputy Chief Walsh said Community Policing and the Traffic Unit remain steady and have given 38 citations, made 66 car stops and organized and began the citizen's police academy which has had 10 sessions. The total calls for service for the patrol division was 4039.

Deputy Chief Walsh said there were 191 infractions for Selective Enforcement which has increased from August and September. He said during the distracted driving enforcement 77 tickets were given for cell phone use at various locations and most of the other tickets were for speeding and control signals at stop signs and red lights.

Mayor Rilling said he has seen a lot of people driving with one and sometimes two dogs in their lap and to him is a distraction and also very dangerous for the dog as well as the driver and if there is an accident where the airbag is deployed it could injure both the dog and the driver. He asked if that is covered under the distracted driving law. Deputy Chief Walsh said that there is a section that includes items that do impede the ability to remain attentive while driving. Mayor Rilling requested that a press advisory be issued on that and focus on that.

Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons
Commissioner Kelly Straniti

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Training Report- October

Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said they are in full swing trying to get their review credit training done for the year because due to Covid-19 was put on hold. She said of note that have finished with the noise meter training so there are 21 officers and supervisors who are trained in the new noise ordinance and the equipment related to that. A train the trainer was held on the recertification for fair and impartial policing so that so that they can train the rest of the department as a review course.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Tuition Reimbursement- Sergeant Rafael Fonseca

****COMMISSIONER COLLIER CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERGEANT FONSECA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,556.54**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DROP Request- Detective Kristina Lapak

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP REQUEST WITH REGRETS FOR DETECTIVE KRISTINA LAPAK EFFECTIVE FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2026.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Complimentary Letters

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary letter from Dr. Marta Elders for Detective Maloney which was referenced in the Officer of Month section of the agenda.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from John Hudnicky from the Mobile Crisis Unit thanking Sergeant Fonseca and several officers who had responded to an emotionally disturbed person call. He stated that it was the most professional response he has ever experienced and he applauded the department for their training and on how they handled the situation.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from Kathleen Marsh regarding a few calls that she had especially thanking LT. Hume who had assisted on one of the calls.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from Laoise King passing along the fact that she had received a lot of positive feedback regarding the officers that staffed the flu clinic

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

and how they were professional and friendly to the people who had attended the clinic and were great ambassadors for the city.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email from James Rascati from Behavioral Health Services. He had contacted the department regarding a client who was addicted to pain killers and was drinking and considering suicide and requested a wellness check. Sgt. Calise, Sgt. Sedlock, Officer Hamm and Officer Martino had responded and the individual that they assisted told Mr. Rascati that he believes the officers had saved his life and was pleased on how the situation was handled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- STAFFING REVIEW

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Executive session began 4:23PM.

Executive session ended at 4:55PM.

There were no motions made and no votes were taken.

**** COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF SGT. DINHO TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT EFFECTIVE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF DETECTIVE CISERO TO THE RANK OF SERGEANT EFFECTIVE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020.**

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF OFFICER RIBISL TO THE RANK OF DETECTIVE EFFECTIVE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:57PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dilene Byrd