

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
AMMENDED MINUTES  
August 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.  
Southington Police Department  
69 Lazy Lane  
Southington, CT 06489**

Chairman James Verderame called the meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Southington Police Department, 69 Lazy Lane, Southington, CT with the following in attendance:

Commissioner Sinclair, Commissioner Pestillo, Commissioner DellaVecchia, Commissioner Kalkowski and John F. Daly, Chief of Police.

Administrative staff in attendance:  
Deputy Chief William Palmieri

**James Verderame, Chair, presides:**

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from the regular meeting, June 13, 2019.

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2019 regular meeting. Commissioner Sinclair seconded. Motion passed.

3. **Communications.**
  - a. **Communications from the Public**  
None
  - b. **Commissioner Communications**

Discussion regarding a Facebook post regarding school security and school safety and what the Town and Police Department are doing in that regard. Deputy Chief Palmieri relayed that they do have a Town Safety Committee that meets monthly with the Board of Ed executives. Lt. Egan and Sgt. Leppard have done training with all the schools, faculty, staff and kids on lockdown procedures and school safety. They drove home the See Something Say Something. They have notification systems in place. So they are doing everything that they can to keep them trained on school safety. Commissioner Kalkowski stated that, if you look at the Police Department's Mission Statement as well, it's pretty clearly defined on all of the activity. So he would direct people to that Mission Statement. Deputy Chief Palmieri said he would also have Sgt. Leppard reach out to the person who was concerned.

Deputy Chief Palmieri relayed that there was also another post relating to speeding vehicles. The post referenced that they were seeing a lot of distracted driving posts but not a lot of speeding arrests. Right now the Department is doing the Distracted Driving campaign, August 1 – August 15. They do address speeding as part of their normal patrol. They tell people that, if they have a complaint about speeding vehicles in a certain area, to call and they will do some directed enforcement there. They have been on a rotation and they get to it as activity dictates.

Brief discussion regarding people making illegal u-turns and lefts out of parking lots (i.e. Panera, McDonalds) where the driveways are clearly paved to direct a right turn out of parking lot; people are hopping the curbs and turning left out of these parking lots. Deputy Chief Palmieri said they can set directed patrols up in those areas.

Also a brief discussion regarding a call from the Principal of Derynoski stating that there has been a lot of graffiti on all of the playscape equipment outside, and they are getting new equipment soon. Deputy Chief Palmieri confirmed that they will do extra patrol checks in that area.

Lastly, there was a social media post regarding Summer Street at West Main Street. They have looked at this numerous times and it is not feasible to put a three-way stop there. It's just not designed that way, it would actually add problems. What they can do, and have done in the past, is have officers patrol to make sure to make sure people are stopping for the Stop Sign. But, to some degree, people have to understand that, when they're on the trail and come to that intersection they have to stop and look both ways before crossing. Chief Daly shared the crosswalk is brick and there is signage in the area. Chief Daly also stated narrowing the roadway in the area is part of the plan and that will assist in reducing speed in the area.

#### **4. Chief Jack Daly's Report to Commission.**

Chief Daly relayed that a letter was received from Jenna Wesley thanking Officer LoCastro for finding her daughter's phone. Ms. Wesley noted Officer LoCastro was professional, kind and patient.

Chief Daly also relayed that a letter was received from Any Thomas, Director of marketing for Lake Compounce thanking the department for participating in Hero Appreciation Day. Officer Chad Butler and Officer Joe Izzo represented the department at this event.

Chief Daly stated that on August 18, 2019 they will be conducting oral interviews for the vacant patrol officer positions. They are interviewing 52 candidates over two and a half days. The oral panel is made up of Lieutenant Egan, Master Sergeant Plourde, Sergeant Salerno, Sergeant Cifone and Officer Justin Burke.

In addition, they are conducting increased ATV patrols on the open space properties that are owned by the Town of Southington. The goals of these patrols are to reduce trespassing and damage to both our watershed property and the Town's open space areas.

Bristol Court (GA 17) will be closing on August 30, 2019. Effective September 9, 2019 they will begin using the New Britain Court (GA 15) for all of their cases.

The Berlin Chief of Police sent a letter of thanks to Lt. Egan for participating in a promotional oral board at the Berlin Police Department.

On Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 8:46 a.m. a brief service will be held at the 9/11 memorial in Plantsville on the corner of Summer Street and Main Street. The service will reflect on the events that took place on that date in 2001. Members of the fire and police departments, town officials, civic organizations and community residents are invited to the service to honor and remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 at the WTC, Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. Please plan at arriving at the service by 8:30 a.m. to ensure parking is available.

## **5. Bills Submitted for payment**

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to approve the bills from July 2019 as submitted. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

## **6. Operations Management Report by Deputy Chief Palmieri**

### **a) General Order Review**

#### **1. General Order 600-23 Victim-Witness Assistance**

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to approve the updated General Order 600-23 Victim-Witness Assistance presented by Deputy Chief Palmieri. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

### **b) Arrest Information Summary**

Deputy Chief Palmieri relayed that there were 7 alcohol-related arrests in June 2019 and 12 drug related arrests in June 2019. In addition there were 4 alcohol-related arrests in July 2019 and 13 drug-related arrests in July 2019.

### **c) Distracted Driving Program Update**

They are currently conducting a distracted driving program which runs from August 1, 2019 – August 15, 2019. This is a State of Connecticut Grant Funded Program.

### **d) 2018-2019 Annual Report Submission**

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 Annual Report Submission presented by Deputy Chief Palmieri. Commissioner DellaVecchia seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Motion to enter into executive session was made by Commissioner Pestillo excluding the public and press for the purposes of personnel, contractual and security issues. Included in executive session were Chief Daly, Deputy Chief Palmieri, Tim Weber and Erin Peterson. Commissioner Kalkowski seconded. Motion passes unanimously on a voice vote.

Whereupon, The Commission went into Executive Session.

### **7. Executive Session**

The Southington Board of Police Commissioners entered executive session immediately following their regular meeting with the following in attendance in order to discuss personnel, contractual and security issues:

Chairman Verderame, Commissioner Sinclair, Commissioner Pestillo, Commissioner DellaVecchia, Commissioner Kalkowski and John F. Daly, Chief of Police and Deputy Chief William Palmieri.

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

Executive session was adjourned.

### **8. Regular session**

Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to return to public session. Commissioner Kalkowski seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to hire Dispatcher Samantha Ruffino, date to be determined. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to hire Dispatcher Britany Chere, date to be determined pending a background check. Commissioner DellaVecchia seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to hire part-time replacement Dispatcher Izabela Vernali, as of September 2, 2019. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to hire Wendi Roy as a Records Clerk, date to be determined. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to hire Mr. Anthony DeFelice for the civilian Information Technology position, date to be determined pending successful completion of a background check. Commissioner DellaVecchia seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to adjourn the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner DellaVecchia seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodi Lapreay", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jodi Lapreay  
Recording Secretary