

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
June 11, 2020 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. via Zoom 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, May 14, 2020.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2020 regular meeting. Commissioner DellaVecchia seconded. Motion passed.

3. **Communications.**
 - a. **Communications from the Public**

None
 - b. **Commissioner Communications**

Commissioner Pestillo wanted to thank everyone at the Police Department. He said he's not a police officer, he is part of the public, but has been on enough ride-alongs to see what they do firsthand. They say you go in when we're all coming out and we see it. He just wanted to thank everybody from the Chief on down for everything they do. He knows sometimes people take it for granted just because you're there. But you're out for the community and you've really taken care of all of us in Southington. So thank you.

Commissioner Sinclair said he would like to echo Commissioner Pestillo's comments and he would also like to mention that he spoke to a member of the community this week. She is involved in some very progressive movements in Town and they were talking about the Police Department and what they are doing to diversify more. He was talking about various officers and she said "that's

all great but we don't know any of these officers." She had an idea that Commissioner Sinclair thought was great. To have their police officers, not only the new hires, but the ones that have been there for a while, do 2 or 3 minute videos to put up on Facebook to tell a little bit about themselves, why they wanted to become a police officer, what they enjoy doing. And that way they become more personal to the public.

Everyone agreed that would be a good idea and they will start working on it.

5. Chief Jack Daly's Report to Commission.

Chief Daly relayed the following:

A card was received from Nathanael Thornton of Rustic Oak Drive thanking us for everything we do.

Dick and Sue Grise of Bristol send a letter acknowledging excellent work and professionalism displayed by Officer Thomas Atterrato.

Dawn Gambacini of Southington sent a letter asking about De-Escalation Training. Dawn had done some research on a program which has been used by other police departments in Connecticut. She was not sure if the department had this type of training and wanted to forward the information to them.

Susan Wojenski of Southington sent a letter thanking the officer that responded to her home on a medical call on March 1, 2020. Susan noted the officer helped her stay calm during the incident. Officer Kristen Pinsker was the responding officer who assisted Mrs. Wojenski.

The Assistant Animal Control Officer's position closed on June 1, 2020 and they received 38 applications. They are currently in the process of having the candidates fill out and return the applicant information packet. The goal is to schedule oral interviews in late June or early July 2020.

On Monday, June 8, 2020 the Southington Police Department took part in a peaceful demonstration on the Town Green. The event started at 6:00 pm and ended around 8:00 pm.

Congratulations to New Recruits, Officer Schlitten and Officer Beljean, for graduated from the Academy. Officer Stephen Schlitten finished number one (1) overall in his academy class. Congratulations to Officer Schlitten and his family.

5. Bills Submitted for payment

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to approve the bills from May 2020 as submitted. Commissioner Sinclair seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

6. Operations Management Report by Deputy Chief Palmieri

a) Arrest Information Summary

There were 4 alcohol related arrests in May 2020 compared to 5 in May of 2019. In addition, there were 2 drug related arrests in May 2020 compared to 20 in May of 2019.

c) General Activity Overview

Deputy Chief Palmieri and the Commission reviewed the 2019 versus 2020 calls for service. Calls overall are still trending down due to the Pandemic. Officers continue to complete Extra Checks within their Patrol Districts. In May of 2019 the Patrol Division completed 541 Extra Checks compared to over 1700 in May of 2020. Incidents of Domestic Violence although down for the month of May are starting to trend upwards in looking at early June 2020.

Deputy Chief Palmieri and the Commission reviewed and discussed reports and charts related to incident reporting, and crash locations and causes. The Commission agreed that these charts were very helpful.

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. Commissioner DellaVecchia 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.

9. Patrol Officer Vacancy

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to hire Judemayer Medena as a Police Officer as of July 1, 2020 at the 12 month step. Commissioner Sinclair seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Kalkowski made a motion to adjourn the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Sinclair 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