

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held on Wednesday, August 3, 2022. Attendance was in-person and by Zoom. Present at City Hall were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Police Chief William Baldwin, Police Captain Bart Barown, Fire Chief Eric Borden, Trinity Health EMS Manager Jeff Ganung, and Board of Public Safety Commissioners Glenn McLeod, Douglas Benedetto, and Darlene Battle. Commissioner Gregg Cogswell joined via Zoom. Torrington VFD Commissioners Scott Mills, and Gary Delmonte were also in attendance. Commissioners Molly Spino and Joe McElroy were absent.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to open the meeting to the public. No one present wished to speak.

POLICE OFFICER

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Cogswell, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Ramon Dos Santos as a regular member of the Torrington Police Department effective July 18, 2022.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted to accept the Regular meeting minutes from June 1, 2022. Commissioner Cogswell abstained from the vote.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Special meeting minutes from July 18, 2022.

UNIFORM EQUIPMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Battle, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to utilize State Procurement Contract #17PSX0024 and purchase the Police uniform equipment from New England Uniform, LLC of Danbury, CT for \$29,770.15 to be paid for by the 2022 JAG Local VCP Grant, further explained in Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco's letter dated July 27, 2022, having been previously approved by City Council on August 1, 2022.

AMMUNITION PURCHASE

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to utilize State Procurement Contract #19PSX0220 and purchase ammunition for the fiscal year 22/23. The estimated budgeted amount for these purchases is \$24,500, further explained in Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco's letter dated July 27, 2022, having been previously approved by City Council on August 1, 2022.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORTS: APPROVED

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Police Chief's reports for May and June 2022.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORTS: APPROVED

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Cogswell, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Chief's reports for May and June 2022.

EMS PROVIDER ACTIVITY REPORTS: APPROVED

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS provider activity reports for May and June 2022.

BUSINESS BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Volunteer Fire Departments. Torrington VFD Commissioner Gary Delmonte reminded everyone that their car show is scheduled for August 12th.

ADD TO AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to add the item *Discuss the Acquisition of Two Drones from Cloud City Drones of Warwick, RI.* to the agenda.

PURCHASE TWO DRONES

On a motion by Commissioner Cogswell, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to approve the acquisition of two Unmanned Aerial Drones for the Torrington Police Department on the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, to award the bid to Cloud City Drones of Warwick, RI for \$18,079.74, pending City Council approval. Commissioner McLeod asked why they chose this company over the other one, Chief Baldwin explained that in the bids that were received, this company came out on top, with its

serviceability, ability to deliver, and multiple references. He went on to say that they were also looking to go local to have access to the service department should any issues arise. Chief Baldwin let the Board know that Lieutenant Johnson has researched the different drones and gone through his training and certification for utilizing the drone. He said that the FAA requires this certification and spoke further about how the drones will be utilized for the department, whether it's for investigative purposes, active shooter, documenting crime scenes, accident scenes, or locating a missing person.

BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads. Police Chief Baldwin, Interim Fire Chief Tripp, and EMS Manager Jeff Ganung gave the latest updates from their departments.

BUSINESS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Mayor and members of the Board of Public Safety.

Commissioner Cogswell commended the Police Department on how they handled the robbery at Litchfield Bancorp.

Commissioner Benedetto said how successful National Night Out was. He went on to say how the PAL program is growing, and that the Summer Fest was a great event. He also thanked Lieutenant Rouleau and Detective Dablain for their service to the Police Department and wished them well in their retirement.

Commissioner McLeod asked if there was going to be anyone from the Board of Public Safety present at the Fire Department interviews that were going to happen tomorrow, Mayor Carbone let him know that they had reached out to the Fire Department Subcommittee. He went on to say that regardless of the Police or Fire Subcommittee, someone from the Board should be present when hiring for the Police or Fire Departments.

Commissioner Battle thanked everyone that participated in the National Night Out.

Mayor Carbone mentioned to the Board that most of the properties that the Police or Fire Departments talk about have been found in violation of blight, or other fire or safety ordinances. She went on to explain how the Police and Fire Departments work alongside the code enforcers within the City to discuss any property where a complaint is brought before the City.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner McLeod, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Heather Abraham, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST:


CAROL L. ANDERSON, CITY CLERK