

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall Auditorium on Wednesday, October 2, 2019.

Those in attendance included Mayor Elinor Carbone and Commissioners Douglas Benedetto, Robert Conforti, Angelo LaMonica, Richard Zaharek, and Darlene Battle. Commissioner Glenn McLeod was absent.

Also present were Police Chief Bill Baldwin, Jr., Fire Chief Peter Towey, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, and Campion Ambulance EMT Thomas Mahoney.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AWARDS

Chief Towey presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Merli Automotive and Unit Citation Awards to Battalion Chiefs Kevin Engle and Thomas Sterling, Lieutenants James Cosgrove and Randall Chesaneck, and Firefighters Jordan Tyrrell, Matthew Bell, James Brown, Aaron Picz, James Preuss, Brian Parks and Brian White for their response to a crash on South Main Street that occurred on September 2, 2019.

Chief Baldwin presented a Chief's Citation Award to Officer Justin Deloy for preventing an elderly man from being scammed and an Exceptional Duty Award to Officer Justin Tomlin for his efforts to secure confessions regarding a drug-related death.

POLICE OFFICER COMPLETION OF FIELD TRAINING

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Sean Crowley as a regular member of the Torrington Police Department, having completed his field training, effective September 24, 2019.

MINUTES

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting held September 4, 2019.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session with Chief Baldwin at 6:44 p.m., pursuant to CGS §1-200(6)(A), to discuss the promotion of Police Department personnel.

OPEN SESSION

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to enter Open Session at 6:53 p.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION ADDED TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Battle, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to add an item to the agenda for the purpose of promoting Police Department personnel.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION APPROVED

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to promote Officer James Delay to the position of Sergeant, effective October 6, 2019.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Chief's report.

Commissioner Benedetto requested an update on a fire truck that was taken out of service to replace a cable and Chief Towey reported that the truck should be back in service within one week. Commissioner Benedetto also requested clarification regarding a vehicle in District One and expressed his concerns regarding a rise in overtime. Chief Towey explained the functionality of the District One vehicle and stated that the rise in overtime was due to a combination of injuries and personnel taking their contractual leave.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Conforti, seconded by Commissioner Battle, the Board voted unanimously to accept Deputy Fire Chief Tripp's report.

TRAINING OFFICER’S REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to accept Training Officer Shopey’s report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Battle, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Emergency Management report.

FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Zaharek, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Fire Marshal’s report.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Police Chief’s reports.

Commissioner Benedetto requested an update on the Police Department’s grants and the *Coffee with a Cop* event that took place September 5, 2019. Chief Baldwin informed the Commissioners that the DUI grant expired, but the PD expects to receive a similar grant next year. He also reported that the *Coffee with a Cop* event was a success.

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS UNIT REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Zaharek, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to accept Officer Pisarski's Traffic Operations Unit report.

EMS PROVIDER ACTIVITY REPORT

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner LaMonica, the Board voted unanimously to accept the EMS Provider Activity report. Commissioner Benedetto asked how things were going with the Fire Department and EMT Thomas Mahoney reported that September was a busy month.

BUSINESS BY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by the Volunteer Fire Departments.

David Maccalous reported that seven of the Drakeville VFD’s SCBA bottles will be going out of service within a year and stated that the Department does not have the funding to replace them. He also announced that the Drakeville VFD will be hosting a pasta dinner fundraiser on October 26, 2019.

BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner Conforti, the Board voted unanimously to consider business by Department Heads.

Chief Baldwin informed the Commissioners that there will be an entry-level police officer exam at THS on October 12, 2019. He stated that the City received 20 applications so far and hopes to attract more local applicants. Chief Baldwin also reported that P.A.L. received a \$10,000 check donation from the Archdiocese of Hartford and had their annual golf tournament fundraiser on September 23, 2019. Lastly, he reported that there was a ceremony at City Hall on October 1, 2019 in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and announced that there will be candlelight vigil at Coe Park on October 23, 2019 to honor the victims and survivors of domestic violence.

Chief Towey reported that the transfer of emergency medical services to Trinity Health is slated for the middle of October and stated that he is in the process of updating the local EMS plan. He reported that the TFD recently had a productive training program for supervisors, and he invited the Commissioners to attend the active shooter and *Stop the Bleed* training at City Hall on October 3, 2019. Chief Towey also announced that there are live burns scheduled to be held at the Litchfield County Fire School during the month of October to provide training for the TFD and Volunteer Departments.

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

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


The Commissioners thanked Merli Automotive and the firefighters who responded to the September 2nd crash on South Main Street. They also thanked Chief Baldwin and Chief Towey for their service to the Police and Fire Departments. Commissioners LaMonica, Conforti, and Battle congratulated Officer Delay on his promotion.

Additionally, Commissioners Benedetto and Conforti expressed their thanks and appreciation to officers Deloy and Tomlin who received the Chief's Citation Award and Exceptional Duty Award, and to Commissioners LaMonica and Zaharek for their service on the Board. Commissioner Benedetto also expressed concerns regarding speeding on East Main Street and the use of personal cell phones by police officers on road jobs. Chief Baldwin informed the Commissioner that there is no policy restricting cell phone use on road jobs, but stated that he would address the issue.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST: 
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK