

**CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Daniel O'Connor, Chair; Mayor Richard A. Moccia;
Commissioner Peter Torrano

STAFF: Police Chief Harry Rilling, Deputy Chief Thomas Kulhawik

OTHER: Frank Favano; Lt. Brian Cunningham; Officer David Peterson;
Officer David Vetare and Officer John Taranto

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2009

**** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF
DECEMBER 21, 2009 AS SUBMITTED.
** COMMISSIONER TORRANO SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DECEMBER 2009 TRAINING REPORT

Chief Rilling reviewed the training report for December with the Commissioners.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Chief Rilling said that there was a practice of rewarding those who had perfect attendance because it reduced sick time pay. Mr. Favano compiled a use of overtime rate, and Chief Rilling said that the Department used more than \$300,000 less overtime than last year. The Mayor said that he deeply appreciated this as it make a big impact on the budget. The following department members had perfect attendance records: Deputy Chief Kulhawik 08-09; Capt. Vitarbo - '09; Lt. Randall - '09; Lt. Resnick - '06-09; Lt. Wrinn - '09; Lt. Cunningham - '09; Sgt. Gonzales - '09; Sgt. Young - '09; Off. Pennoyer - '09; Off. Suda - '09; Off. DePanfilis - '09; Off. Oliveria - '09; Off. Montanez - since hire in '09; Off. Van Rensburg - since hire in '09; Off. Lipeika - since hire in '09; Off. Proto - since hire in '09; Civilian Conti - '09.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

(Lt. Brian Cunningham, Off. Bertha Stuckley)

**** COMMISSIONER TORRANO MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS:**

APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT OF \$213.50 FOR LT. BRIAN CUNNINGHAM FOR COMPLETION OF A CRIMINAL JUSTICE COURSE TOWARDS AN ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN SCIENCE/CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT OF \$837.50 FOR OFFICER BERTHA STUCKLEY FOR COMPLETION OF ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND MANAGEMENT COURSE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX TOWARDS A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

**** MAYOR MOCCIA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COURSE APPROVAL REQUESTS
(Lt. Brian Cunningham, Off. Bertha Stuckley)

**** COMMISSIONER TORRANO MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING COURSE APPROVALS:**

APPROVAL FOR LT. BRIAN CUNNINGHAM FOR COURSES AT NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE TOWARDS AN ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN SCIENCE – CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

APPROVAL FOR OFFICER BERTHA STUCKLEY FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE COURSES:

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION;
CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY ANALYSIS;
MANAGING CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL;
FUTURES OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE; AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY CAPSTONE COURSE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX.**

**** MAYOR MOCCIA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

EDUCATIONAL STIPEND
(Off. Christopher Imperato)

- ** COMMISSIONER TORRANO MOVED TO APPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL STIPEND REQUEST FOR OFFICER CHRISTOPHER IMPARATO.
- ** MAYOR MOCCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DROP PLAN REQUESTS
(Off. Michael Price, Off. James Yturbe)

- ** COMMISSIONER TORRANO MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP PLAN REQUEST FOR OFF. MICHAEL PRICE AND FOR OFFICER JAMES YTURBE.
- ** MAYOR MOCCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DONATED RESCUE VEHICLE – MARINE/SCUBA UNIT

Chief Rilling reviewed the details regarding this vehicle and said that the maintenance repairs could be done for less than \$5,000, which would come from the Asset Forfeiture Funds. This vehicle would allow the Police Department to respond more quickly to emergencies.

- ** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATED RESCUE VEHICLE FOR THE MARINE/SCUBA UNIT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY ADDITIONAL REPAIR EXPENSES BEYOND THE EXPECTED \$5,000 WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL.
- ** COMMISSIONER TORRANO SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 2010-01
(Death Notice)

The Commission expressed their sympathies regarding the recent passing of the mother of Jeanne Rilling and retired Sergeant Richard Rilling and Retired Officer Arthur Lasprogato.

PERSONNEL ORDER NO. 2010-01
(Suspension)

Chief Rilling reviewed the details of this personnel action with the Commission.

DECEMBER 2009 OFFICER OF THE MONTH
(Off. John Haggerty and Off. David Peterson)

Chief Rilling reviewed the serious domestic violence incident where a woman was stabbed in the neck. The officers rendered immediate first aid that saved the woman's life and were able to save key evidence for the apprehension of perpetrator. The Westport Police also responded quickly to render mutual aid. Had it not been for the rapid response of the officers in rendering first aid, the victim would have most likely died since she had lost significant amounts of blood.

Officer Peterson, who was in attendance, was presented with a certificate for his actions.

THE 2009 OFFICER OF THE YEAR.
(Off. David Vetare and Off. John Taranto)

Chief Rilling then said that it had been a very eventful year and choosing the Officer of the Year had been difficult. He said that there had been a particular dangerous incident that took place in the waters off the shores of Norwalk on October 1, 2009. Officer Taranto was able to locate a suicidal boater and his craft at night and was able to maneuver the boat close enough for Officer Vetare to leap from one boat to the other at 30 m.p.h. and take control of the craft before it crashed into an island. The Mayor noted that the Hour did not cover the incident, but recently covered other negative incidents. Both officers have been nominated for the American Red Cross Life Savings awards. The Commissioners then presented the officers with Officer of the Year plaques. Commissioner O'Connor said that there had been other dangerous incidents such as a man wielding a machete, and other incidents regarding recovery of loaded weapons that the department had handled during the year. He then expressed his thanks to the officers for all their bravery.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ** MAYOR MOCCIA MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.**
- ** COMMISSIONER TORRANO SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commission and Chief Rilling entered into executive session at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services