

# Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling  
Commissioner Charlie L. Yost  
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

## CITY OF NORWALK BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 16, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling; Commissioner Charles Yost; Commissioner Collier-Clemmons

STAFF: Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Deputy Chief James Walsh

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:21PM. A quorum was present.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 23, 2019

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2019 AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

# **Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners**

**Mayor Harry W. Rilling**

**Commissioner Charlie L. Yost**

**Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons**

## **RECOGNITION-JULY OFFICER OF THE MONTH**

(Sergeant David Orr & Officer Phil Taborda)

Chief Kulhawik said that Sergeant Orr wanted to attend the meeting but was unable to so Officer Taborda will be accepting the rewards for both of them.

Chief Kulhawik said the recruitment drive was held this past spring and summer and part of that was to establish some novel ways to advertise the department. Sergeant Orr and Officer Taborda spearheaded a recruitment effort which was a video working with a student from Sacred Heart University and they had done a tremendous job. Mayor Rilling thanked Sergeant Orr and Officer Taborda for taking the initiative and for all of their work.

Officer Taborda came forward and was offered congratulations by the Board. Pictures were taken and Officer Taborda received a certificate.

## **RECOGNITION-AUGUST OFFICER OF THE MONTH**

(Officer Kyle Lipeika)

Chief Kulhawik said that a tip was received by the FBI tip line in Washington and was forwarded to Officer Lipeika, and as a result of the tip and the tremendous amount of hard work he was successful in identifying and arresting the individual who had a high capacity magazine and was trying to build an assault style rifle and have seized the weapons. Mayor Rilling said that he had received a lot of positive comments for the work of Officer Lipeika and due to his actions a tenacious pursuit of the individual prevented an horrific event in the City of Norwalk and or elsewhere.

Officer Lipeika came forward and was offered congratulations by the Board. Pictures were taken and Officer Lipeika received a certificate.

## **CITIZEN AWARD**

(Anthony Matteriello and Eric Johnson)

Chief Kulhawik said that Mr. Matteriello is the student at Sacred Heart University who had helped with the editing and putting together the recruitment video.

# **Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners**

**Mayor Harry W. Rilling**

**Commissioner Charlie L. Yost**

**Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons**

Chief Kulhawik said that Mr. Johnson happened to be in the area where there was a domestic dispute occurring where a male was assaulting a female and he had stepped in and intervened before the officers arrived.

Chief Kulhawik said that Mr. Matteriello and Mr. Johnson were unable to attend the meeting so their certificates will be mailed to them.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

### **Patrol Staffing- July**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said that for the month of July there are currently 176 sworn personnel; there are currently three vacancies in patrol and there are four officers remain on extended worker's compensation for extended injures.

### **Selective Enforcement Report**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the significant incidents for the month of July and said that the burglaries of motor vehicles which have risen slightly from June and the detective bureau is in the process of pursuing some leads; there were four residential burglaries and two commercial burglaries for the month; and there was one overdoses but was not fatal and there were four sexual assaults.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the significant operations and said that they had directed the Patrol Selective Enforcement at following lavations due to citizen complaints of stop sign violations and traffic control signal violations. He said that 161 stop sign infractions and 35 traffic control violations were issued.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that Special Services had conducted a liquor compliance check at local bars and restaurants and seven bars were cited for liquor violations, and two were cited for underage sales.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that 360 infractions were issued for the month of July; four for unnecessary noise and there were eight DUI's.

# Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling

Commissioner Charlie L. Yost

Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

## **Patrol Staffing- August**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said that for the month of August there are currently 176 sworn personnel; there are currently three vacancies in patrol and there are five officers remain on extended worker's compensation for extended injuries.

## **Selective Enforcement Report**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the significant incidents for the month of August and said that there was a homicide at 39 Fairfield Avenue of Michael Moody and was closed with an arrest by the detectives.

There were four fatal overdoses in the month of August and the Detective Bureau and Special Services Division are investigating sources of Heroin and are currently waiting on the toxicology to have the State's Attorney move forward. Mayor Rilling asked when there is a fatality due to an overdose of opioids or something similar if there is a follow up investigation to determine how it was obtained. Deputy Chief Walsh said "yes" by the Detective Bureau and if they survive it is usually an assault second charge and if they pass away it is a manslaughter second charge.

The Detective Bureau made three arrest of juveniles related to car burglaries and thefts from vehicles left unlocked.

Distracted driving efforts continued in the month of August and 254 infractions were issued. The Traffic Unit and Community Policing began "Slow down Days" in or around schools and have received a lot of positive feedback. Enforcement in school zones resulted in 166 infractions issued for speeding, 22 infractions for distracted driving and 76 infractions for various violations. Mayor Rilling asked if the no U-turn on Strawberry Hill Avenue is being monitored. Chief Kulhawik said "yes" and it has gotten a lot better.

The Patrol Division continues selective enforcement at intersections that have been identified by resident complaints of motorist disregarding traffic control signs and traffic control lights. There were 66 infractions issued.

Deputy Chief Walsh said that 760 infractions were issued for the month of July and were up by 400 from the month of July, and eight for unnecessary noise, and 254 for cell phone usage.

# Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling

Commissioner Charlie L. Yost

Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

### **Training Report (July)**

Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said annual firearms qualifications were done and the Supervisors are going through the Nims and both ICS courses to help with critical instances.

### **Training Report (August)**

Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said there was E.S.U. and more firearm training done. The Nims training was completed by all of the Supervisor so every Supervisor in the department now has it. Additionally, Officer Haddy was trained as a new FTO to help train new officers coming in. Three people had attended emotional survival for law enforcement class.

### **1033 Program/Rescue Vehicle**

Chief Kulhawik said that they were made aware from Newtown that these vehicles are available and the only cost is for shipping which is \$3,000- \$3,500. He said it is a multi-purpose vehicle and they currently have nothing similar to that.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE APPLYING FOR THE 1033 PROGRAM/ RESCUE VEHICLE.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **St. Ann Club Waiver Administration Fees-St. Ann's Festival**

Mayor Rilling said that Mr. Gabriele has submitted a letter asking that the administrative fees for the officers that were assigned to the St. Ann's Festival be waived. He said he thinks it would set a precedence that we don't want to establish but he is open for comments from the commissioners. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked if there is a set fee based on the number of police officers that are needed at a particular event. Chief Kulhawik said \$9.00 per hour per officer over the three day course of the festival.

# **Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners**

**Mayor Harry W. Rilling**

**Commissioner Charlie L. Yost**

**Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO DENY THE REQUEST THE WAIVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

### **Course Approval- Sergeant Ryan Evarts**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE FOR SERGEANT RYAN EVARTS.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Course Approval-Sergeant David Orr**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE COURSE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT FOR SERGEANT DAVID ORR.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE COURSE FOR CRIME CAUSATION AND DEVIANCE FOR SERGEANT DAVID ORR.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Tuition Reimbursement – Deputy Chief James Walsh**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR DEPUTY CHIEF WALSH THE AMOUNT OF \$1485.00**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **Tuition Reimbursement – Lieutenant Terry Blake**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR LIEUTENANT TERRY BLAKE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1017.56.**

# **Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners**

**Mayor Harry W. Rilling  
Commissioner Charlie L. Yost  
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **Tuition Reimbursement – Detective Brendan Collins**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR DETECTIVE BRENDAN COLLINS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1485.00.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FOR DETECTIVE BRENDAN COLLINS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1447.50.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **Drop Request- Lieutenant Thomas Roncinske**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP REQUEST FOR LIEUTENANT THOMAS RONCINSKE COMMENCING ON APRIL 1, 2019 ENDING MARCH 31, 2024.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Complimentary Letters**

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a letter from Robert Maslan discussing his interactions with Officers Demott, Curran and Boyd regarding a behavioral issue that had occurred in his presence. He commented that the officers had handled the situation very well.

# Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners

Mayor Harry W. Rilling

Commissioner Charlie L. Yost

Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

Chief Kulhawik said that complimentary letter was received by the Parks Department Play and Learn Supervisor to Lieutenant Blake thanking the department for providing ice cream for the children in the program.

Chief Kulhawik said that Deputy Chief Zecca received a complimentary letter from Ms. Ynonna Annese who had done a ride along thanking Officer Taylor for the great opportunity.

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a complementary letter from Loreen Beaudry for Officer Ribisl thanking him for his assistance during a motor vehicle accident.

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a complementary letter from Stephen Burke for Lieutenant Resnick for his assistance with a vin verification so they can register their car in Florida.

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a complementary letter from Stu Schwartzman for Sergeant Gulino for her presentation that she had done for a tour group that came from the Mass. College of Liberal Arts.

Chief Kulhawik said that he received a complementary letter from Martin Schaivone for Officers Laudano, Nieves and Ouellette for their help working and going above and beyond the Light for Kara event.

## ADJOURNMENT

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd