



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

Police Officer Standards and Training Council
Connecticut Police Academy

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

July 26, 2018

Training Academy, 285 Preston Avenue
Meriden, CONNECTICUT

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 26, 2018 POST COUNCIL MEETING. THE ORIGINAL MINUTES ARE IN THE FORM OF A DIGITAL RECORDING AND AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM THE ACADEMY ADMINISTRATOR.

Council Members Present: Chief John F. Daly; Town Administrator Michael Freda; *Douglas Glanville – video call in*; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief State’s Attorney Kevin Kane; Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Mark Palmer; *State Victim’s Advocate Natasha Pierre – video call in*; Dr. Guy Vallaro; Chief James Viadero and Chief Thomas Wydra.

Other Attendees: Police Academy Administrator Thomas E. Flaherty; Basic Training Director William Schultz; Accreditation Manager William Tanner; Holly King, CSP - TA Administrative Staff; Pamela Hayes – CPCA; Assistant Attorney General DeAnn Varunes; Christopher Engler – Attorney for City of Danbury; Virginia Werner – City of Danbury, Director of Human Resources; Chief Patrick Ridenhour – Danbury Police Chief; Javier Lowe - Hat City Union V.P.; Bryan Reed - Hat City Union President; Christopher Belair; Mrs. Linda Nido – POSTC IT Staff and Lorien Velasquez – POSTC Secretary 1.

Council Members Absent: Kurt P. Cavanaugh; Dr. Amy Donahue; Special Agent in Charge Patricia Ferrick; 1st Selectman Laura Francis; Chief Michael Maniago; Patrick Rittmon and Commissioner Dora Schriro.

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Keith Mello, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:34 A.M.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Chiefs or Public Comment - NONE**

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Request for a Certificate of Comparative Certification

1. HARE, David G. – Oxford PD (Officer)
2. **MCELROY, Paul – Killingly PD (Officer) Tabled in March 2018 – Tabled again 7/26/18**
3. MCGUIRE, John, F., III – Canton PD (Officer)

4. PANDISCIA, David M. – Burlington PD (Officer)
5. RAY, Gregory A. – Stafford PD (Officer)
6. TORROMANIDES, John – UCONN PD (Officer) Tabled in March 2018
7. ZMAYEFSKI, Michael - Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation PD (Officer)

The certification committee recommends the council approve the above certificate requests (excluding #2 McElroy which has been tabled again) for Police Officer Certification by way of a Certificate of Comparative Certification subject to State of Connecticut certification/recertification or proof of current certification consistent with training requirements and associated conditions as specified within the contents of the council packet forwarded to each council member in advance of today's meeting; motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Mr. Freda. The motion carried.

Rehire of Police Officer

1. Belair, Christopher - Danbury Police Department

The certification committee recommends that Christopher Belair be required to attend a Basic Police Recruit Training Academy at the current tuition rate. Prior to entry in the Recruit Academy, Belair will be required to obtain a medical release and meet all entry level requirements, with the exception of the entry Cooper standards, as is standard procedure for all Basic Academy attendees. Should the City of Danbury enroll him in the POST Council's Academy in Meriden, residency will be waived as well as Recruit attire. He will be a commuter student and dress in accordance with POST Dress Code Policy (General Notice 90-03 Revised). He will be exempt from the entry Cooper standards but will be required to attend all classes and activities as any Basic Training Recruit. He will be held to the same Rules and Regulations, including attendance and academic requirements, as any other Recruit in the Session he attends. Subsequent to successful completion of the Basic Recruit Training, the required minimum 400-hour field training program is waived. As delineated in Section 7-294d (a) (5) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), Belair will have one calendar year from his reappointment date to complete the specified requirements or lose his reappointment and position. Finally, until such time as Belair achieves recertification, he is restricted in his duties and assignments by the provisions of CGS 7-294e-1 (c), as are all Probationary Candidates. Motion made by Chief Daly, seconded by Mr. Kane.

After numerous discussions and new information revealed; Chief Daly and Mr. Kane both withdrew their original motions. A motion was then made to table the decision to Rehire Police Officer Christopher Blair (Danbury Police Department) by Chief Daly, seconded by Mr. Kane. The motion passes.

Basic Training Academy Applications

1. **Hartford Police Academy – Hartford Police Department**

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the Hartford Police Department's application to commence a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of thirty-two (32) recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Chief Daly seconded by Chief Higgins. Motion passes.

2. **New Haven Police Academy – New Haven Police Department**

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve the New Haven Police Department's application to commence a Basic Police Officer Recruit Training Academy for a maximum of forty (40) recruits noting items 1-12; motion made by Chief Daly seconded by Chief Wydra. Motion passes.

Probationary Status Extension

1. ANTOINE, Orlyne – **Stamford Police Department**

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status to Probationary Officer Antoine for a period not to exceed midnight, October 15, 2018, in order for Probationary Officer Antoine to complete her field training requirement to achieve police officer certification. Motion made by Chief Daly seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion passes.

2. FERRELLI, John M., Jr. – **Hartford Police Department**

The Certification Committee recommends the Council approve an extension of the one-year probationary candidate status to Probationary Officer Ferrelli for a period not to exceed midnight, August 31, 2018, in order to complete his field training requirement to achieve police officer certification. Motion made by Chief Daly seconded by Chief Palmer. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Audit Reports – in packet
2. Correspondence – in packet

Chief Flaherty introduced Secretary 1, Lorien Velasquez.

Chief Mello moved to adjourn the meeting; motioned by Chief Daly, seconded by Mr. Kane. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Holly L. King
DESPP, Connecticut State Police
Training Academy Secretary