



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
Police Officer Standards and Training Council
Connecticut Police Academy

POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS and TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, November 10, 2022
9:00 A.M.

[Remotely via Zoom](#)

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members Present: Chief Keith Mello, **(Council Chairman)**, Town Administrator Michael Freda, Chief Paul Melanson, Chief Vernon Riddick, Doug Glanville, Chief Roberto Rosado, Chief States Attorney Patrick Griffin, Commissioner James Rovella, Jonathan Slifka, Chief Fernando Spagnolo, Chief Scott Sansom, Mayor Caroline Simmons, David Kosciuk, Professor Michael Lawlor, Chief Neil Dryfe, Pamela Mautte, David Sundberg

Council Members Not Present: Iran Nazario, Anderson Curtis, Associate Vice President Ronnell Higgins, Lieutenant Ryan Maynard

Other Attendees: Karen Boisvert, Amie Ledoux, Carrie-Jo McGuffey, Chief Shawn Sequeira, Attorney Colin Milne, Dave Collins- Associated Press, Jessica Blank, Deputy Chief Lawrence Terra, Michael Francis, Assistant Chief Robert Riccobon, Claude Young

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Keith Mello calls the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of the Minutes – September 14, 2022 Regular Meeting
2. Chiefs/Public Comment

Claude Young, a member of the public speaks to many years of complaints of the Shelton Police Department. He also shares a complaint with the council against William Tanner. Mr. Young states that his complaints have

not been addressed by Mr. Tanner or by the Shelton Police Department. He states he has testified with the Department of Justice. Chief Mello offers Mr. Young the opportunity to put his complaint in writing and submit it to council.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Request for Comparative Certification

1. PACE, Thomas – Danbury Police Department
2. LACRUZ, Patrick - West Hartford- Newington Police Department
3. NOVAK, Wyatt – Old Saybrook Police Department
4. DELEON, Raul – Norwalk Police Department
5. RODRIQUEZ, Joey – Greenwich Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for these to be accepted. Chief Melanson seconded this motion. Chief Riddick abstains from item number two. The motion passes.

Request for Comparative Certification received after October Meeting

- 1.SULLIVAN, Dylan – Suffield Police Department

Director McGuffey explains the details related to this item. Professor Lawlor clarifies that these are officers coming from other states and that is confirmed. He states he's seen an uptick in officers coming to Connecticut and believes this is a good thing.

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Chief Melanson seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for MP Comparative Certification

1. MURDOCK, Neil - Norwalk Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Michael Freda seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for Reactivation of Certification

1. VLAKE, Ginarose– Mashantucket Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Chief Rosado seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for Certification Extension-

A. Injury or Illness

1. Melissa Rome – Newington Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Chief Sansom seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for Extension- Probationary Candidate Status

1. Jordan Bellovoda - Department of Motor Vehicles Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Mayor Simmons seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for Extension- Probationary Candidate Status- received after October Meeting

2. Hector Rosado – New Haven Police Department

Director McGuffey explains the details related to this item.

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Chief Dryfe seconded this motion. The motion passes.

Request for Basic Recruit Training Academy-

1. New Haven Police Department

On behalf of the certification committee, Chief Riddick motions for this to be accepted. Chief Dryfe seconded this motion. The motion passes.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

1. West Hartford Police Department – Tier 1, Remove Conditions

Chief Melanson apologizes to Chief Riddick and their accreditation team. There was an error that placed West Hartford as accredited but under conditions. Chief Melanson explains the error and that the committee has now corrected the issue. On behalf of the accreditation committee, Chief Melanson motions for conditions to be removed. Chief Dryfe seconds the motion. Academy Administrator Boisvert adds an apology and explains the work that was done to correct this issue. Chief Riddick thanks the council. Chief Riddick abstains. The motion passes.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Academy Administrator’s Report

Academy Administrator Boisvert announces that we have hired three new people since our last meeting, Gary Nevola, Training Officer; Jessica Blank, Field Program Consultant; Michael Francis, Field Program Consultant Academy Administrator Boisvert congratulates Lieutenant Ryan Maynard on his promotion and announces he is now the commander at the State Police Training Academy.

Academy Administrator Boisvert also explains that we have lost our location for EVOC training and all efforts are being made to find a new site. Starting in January, we will have four training academies per year. Academy Administrator Boisvert states they have also added seats to each class.

2. Subcommittee Reports

Chief Riddick states the Social Justice Committee has broken into two further subcommittees. Their goal is to have written reports to present to the council in the beginning of the year.

Chief Mello states Chief Sansom is representing the committee in legislation related to officer wellness.

Chief Mello states that these meetings do allow for public comment and he encourages individuals to attend meetings to discuss questions or comments.

3. Correspondence

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. NAPOLEONE, John – Shelton Police Department

Chief Sequeira from Shelton police department requests that Officer Napoleone be reinstated as a certified police officer after a 90 day suspension. Paul Melanson brings the motion to rescind the departure form and Chief Rosado seconds this motion to allow for discussion. After discussion related to this matter It is requested that this issue be redirected to the certification committee. The motion is amended by Chief Melanson. Chief Rosado seconds this motion. The issue will be redirected to the certification subcommittee.

2. Declaratory Ruling Submitted by Robert Moreau (President of the Judicial Professional Employee Union)

There is no representative from the organization. Chief Mello requests to table this issue until someone can be present to present the information.

Town Administrator Freda states that the shooting that occurred in Bristol greatly effected North Haven. Every year North Haven lights their Christmas tree in an official gathering. Mr. Freda announces that the family of the one of the fallen officers will be lighting to Christmas tree in the ceremony and welcomes all to join.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Pamela Mautte motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:56. Chief Rosado seconds the motion. The meeting adjourns at 9:57 am.

1. Next Council Meeting: January 12, 2023

Minutes Prepared and Submitted by:
Amie Ledoux, Administrative Assistant