



TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

POLICE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Hamden Government Center
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Minutes: The Police Commission, Town of Hamden, held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 5:30 PM. via Zoom meeting. The following were discussed.

Zoom meeting recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/iDDuxmXSsgGMCYi0eOM6uM1JSA_9aMm6Xwr2k5VQcjbxvCbzWxvABRcaAskYlxti.tfHyiGFWM151V2IE

Access Passcode: QY2sB=Oi

Commissioners in Attendance:

Rhonda Caldwell, Madame Chair
Elaine Dove, Commissioner
Daniel Dunn, Commissioner
Frank Ladore, Commissioner
Vaughn Willis, Commissioner

Staff in attendance:

Karimah Mickens, Town Clerk, Hamden
John Sullivan, Chief of Police, Hamden
Nancy Forvil, Commission Clerk

Others in attendance:

Charles Tiernan, Esq.

1. Call to order/Roll Call

Karimah Mickens, Town Clerk, called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. A roll call was conducted by Karimah Mickens, Town Clerk. Commissioners, Rhonda Caldwell, Elaine Dove, Daniel Dunn, Frank Ladore and Vaughn Willis were present. Hamden Town Clerk, Karimah Mickens, Chief of Police, John Sullivan, Deputy Chief of Police, Kevin Samperi and Attorney Charles Tiernan were also present.

2. Nominations and voting for the Chairman of Police Commission and Traffic Authority

Commissioner, Elaine Dove nominated Rhonda Caldwell for Chairman to serve for a twelve month term. Commissioner, Daniel Dunn second the motion. The Vote was unanimous in favor. Frank Ladore opposed.

Madame Chair, Rhonda Caldwell will serve a twelve month term as Chairman for both the Police Commission and Traffic Authority.

3. Report of the Chairman

- a) Status on Officer Devin Eaton's case will be reported by Attorney Charles Tiernan.

Devin Eaton has entered in a nolo contendere plea at the New Haven Superior Court and is scheduled to be sentenced on April 8, 2022. As a result of the nolo contendere plea, Devin Eaton has resigned from the Hamden Police Department. The union representing Devin Eaton filed an application with the court to stay any disciplinary proceeding by the Commission pending a resolution of the criminal case. The request was appealed after Judge Blue found that the matter should be stayed because the Town prevailed on the appeal. Due to Mr. Eaton's nolo contendere plea, any rescheduling of the case would be withdrawn.

4. Public comments on agenda action items

(There was no public comment)

5. Correspondence

1. Thank you letter from Chief Sullivan to Mrs. Cheryl Green for a donation of a \$100.00 to the Hamden Police Benevolent Association.
2. Thank you letter from Chief Sullivan to Mrs. Janice Marie Dell for a donation of a \$100.00 to the K-9 Gift Fund.

3. Thank you letter from Chief Sullivan to the Smith Family for a donation of a \$50.00 to the Hamden Animal Facility Gift Fund Account.
4. Thank you letter from Chief Sullivan to Ian Nixon for a commending both Officer Zinni and Officer Venditto for responding to an emergency call on January 2, 2022.

6. Department Report- (Chief Sullivan)

1. Patrol, Traffic and Street Interdiction, Detective Major Crimes and Special Victims Stats (Please see attached back-up and recording for additional information)
2. December 2021 Monthly Report (Please see attached back-up and recording for additional information)
3. HPD 2022 Uniform Regulations Policy (Please see attached back-up and recording for additional information)

Commissioner, Elaine Dove made a motion to table the HPD 2022 Uniform Regulations Policy to add additional language regarding the disposal of the HDP Uniform for previous officers. Commissioner, Daniel Dunn second the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

7. New Business

- a) Review and provide commentary on the 2022-2023 HPD Budget (Police, Traffic and Animal Control)

Madame Chair- Rhonda Caldwell would like to table the 2022-2023 HPD Budget (Police, Traffic and Animal Control) for the March 2022 Police Commission meeting. A motion was not conducted.

Special request from Chief John Sullivan- Requesting the certified list of officer's names from Personnel to schedule a Special Meeting in March 2022 to interview the four entry level officers.

Special request from Commissioner Daniel Dunn- Requesting 105 personnel files of all Hamden Police Officers. (The request is for training file, personnel file, and internal affairs files).

Chief John Sullivan and Attorney Tiernan's response- Will seek legal counsel on how to provide the personnel files.

Special request from Madame-Chair, Caldwell request- Requesting all FOIA files for Hamden Police Officers, FOIA files and the interview files for the four entry level officers.

Special request from Commissioner Elaine Dove- Requesting to go into executive session to create interview questions for the four entry- level officers.

Madame-Chair, Rhonda Caldwell's response- Requested a template interview questions from Attorney Tiernan. Attorney Tiernan will provide the Commission with an interview sample questions document.

8. Old Business

(There was no new business)

9. Executive Session

(There was no executive session)

10. Adjournment

Commissioner, Frank Ladore made a motion to adjourn the February 8, 2022 Police Commission regular meeting. Commissioner, Daniel Dunn seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 PM.