

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
August 28, 2023**

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(Meeting starts at 00:24:26)

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A meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held on Monday, August 28, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:21 P.M. by the Chair, Adrian Webber.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Adrian Webber, Chair; Abdul Osmanu, Vice-Chair; Laurie Sweet; Betty Wetmore; Justin Farmer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cory O'Brien; Bob Anthony

**PUBLIC HEARING (Item#3):** Opened at 7:22 pm - There was 1 speaker in favor of the ordinance. Closed at 7:24pm

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**The following items were addressed:**

**1. Appointment of Taiwan D. Richardson to the Police Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2023 (D-6)**

-- Moved by Mr. Webber, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer said he won't be supporting this. He said when working on the Charter we said we would have diverse representation and we already have two people with similar backgrounds on this commission and if this happens we'll have two from the 6<sup>th</sup> district. He wants more diversity from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. He said he also sees a pattern of appointing Republicans to the 5<sup>th</sup> district which is mostly Democratic. As far as he's concerned they need to be serious about the mandate to have broader representation on our boards and commissions, especially from those districts that are disenfranchised, it allows for equity, but it also allows for different perspective on our Police Commission. He said he'd like to see different educational backgrounds and life experiences and so because of that he will not be supporting this nomination tonight.

Mr. Webber said he personally knows Mr. Richardson and has worked with him and believes that he would be a tremendous asset on this commission given his diverse background and his work in the community. He has done work that not only relates to public safety and his profession but has also done and lead countless community service events and has shown a wide vast of knowledge and skill set of things in terms of the community and in terms of the diverse population that we have and he has a tremendous knowledge and ability to be fair.

Mr. Webber said he's very happy to put this name forward to be a commissioner and serve Hamden. He also believes his background in law enforcement gives a background of expertise.

A vote was taken and the item failed with 3 opposed (Farmer) (Osmanu) (Sweet)

**2. An order of the Town of Hamden, Connecticut authorizing the execution and delivery of a Lease Proposal, Master Lease/Purchase Agreement and Schedules thereto for the acquisition, purchase, financing and leasing of certain police vehicles**

-- Moved by Ms. Wetmore, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Acting Chief Wydra explained how this was approved by the Legislative Council during the budget cycle and this is the agreement to obtain the vehicles.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 2 abstentions (Farmer) (Osmanu)

**3. Amendment to ordinance regulating the preservation of records in accordance with the Municipal Retention Schedule for Public Safety and Emergency Services Records**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Sweet and approved unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk  
for Adrian Webber, Chair