

**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

PRESENT: Commissioners Richard Epstein, Chairman; Richard Buckholz; Cathy Graves (6:49 p.m.); Evelise Ribeiro; and Sandra Trevino

Assistant Chief Tobin Hensgen: Department of Police Services
Assistant Chief Ariel Melendez: Department of Police Services
Captain Denise Blanchard: Department of Police Services

Michael Piscitelli: Department of Transportation, Traffic and Parking
Michael Wolak: Corporation Counsel

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m., Richard Epstein, Chairman, presiding.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion and Approval of Regular Session Minutes of August 10, 2010

** Commissioner Buckholz moved approval of the minutes of August 10, 2010
** Commissioner Ribeiro seconded
Voting for: Commissioners Buckholz, Epstein, Ribeiro and Trevino
** Motion passed (4-0-0)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

Following the regular meeting of the Traffic Authority, Mr. Piscitelli excused himself at 6:33 p.m.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Assistant Chief Ariel Melendez

Assistant Chief Melendez stated that the overall crime continues to decrease in the city. From January to April there was a 4 percent decrease. May had a four percent decrease. The month of June showed a 4 percent decrease. From September 1st to the present overall crime is down 4 percent. The Department is making progress on several fronts as far as crime prevention. The Board of Aldermen recognized 25 police officers.

Forty-five officers applied to become SWAT members. Nine officers have completed the written test. Nine officers are going to start the 40-hour indoctrination which is like a SWAT school. There are three recruits up at POST in Meriden who will be graduating on September 22, 2010. As of two weeks ago there are approximately 455 officers at the Department. The

rifles purchased by the Department have arrived. There is an ongoing effort to establish a policy regarding the rifles which would include training, implementation and safety.

The Department is scheduled for the Department of Justice Audit on September 28, 2010. The Department's Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 27th.

RETIREMENTS

Officer Lance Edmonds, service connected disability, eff. 8/20/10

RESIGNATIONS

Police Records Clerk Laurel Smith, eff. 9/9/10

EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no Efficiency Committee Report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Buckholz suggested conducting exit interviews for employees on their way out of the Department to garner feedback.

CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Ribeiro stated that the CRB met on September 9, 2010. There was a question about whether the Pension Board will uphold the current "bad-boy" clause in the contract. Commissioner Epstein stated that the Pension Board has to abide by the contract signed by the Police Union and the City.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mark Barrow a resident of Newhallville and a former Citizens' Police Academy member talked about the unsolved murders in New Haven as well as policing . He also expressed his family's frustration over the unsolved murder of his nephew, Tyrone "TK" Barrow, in December of 2009.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ** **Commissioner Ribeiro moved to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation strategy**
- ** **Commissioner Buckholz seconded**
- Voting for: Commissioners Buckholz, Espstein, Graves, Ribeiro and Trevino**
- ** **Motion passed (5-0-0)**

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:06 p.m.

**** Commissioner Buckholz moved to exit Executive session**
**** Commissioner Ribeiro seconded**
Voting for: Commissioners Buckholz, Espstein, Graves, Ribeiro and Trevino
**** Motion passed (5-0-0)**

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board adjourned the Regular Session Meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sotonye Otunba-Payne