

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
46 CHURCH STREET  
BRANFORD, CT 06405  
MINUTES OF MEETING: MARCH 10, 2025

Commissioners present:

Commissioner Patty Austin  
Commissioner Janice Heggie-Margolis  
Commissioner Christine Ciociola  
Commissioner Valerie Wiel-Wilkins  
Commissioner Robert Nash

Commissioner Sousoulas was absent. Also present were: Police Chief Jon Mulhern, Deputy Chief Alves, Michael Smith, Crime Analyst and candidates Adriana Carrasco and Garrett Barnes.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Austin at 5:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis to approve the minutes of February 10, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins. Vote unanimous.

**Report of the Chief:**

Chief Mulhern introduced Michael Smith, Crime Analyst. Michael made a brief presentation to the board highlighting items and notable arrests in the February Monthly Statistical Report.

Chief Mulhern reported changes in personnel creating several vacancies. Many officers participated in the Read Across America at the schools. Detective Herten and Task Force Officer Harrington received an award from the Special Olympics for their efforts in raising just under \$105,000 for the Special Olympics this year. The license plate reader project is up and running. The policy for usage is being finalized. Chief Mulhern recognized Detective Herten for his efforts working on this project. The department received a DUI grant in the amount of \$46,000. Last year there was amount 40 DUI arrests, there was a decrease in alcohol but an increase in the drug side.

Chief Mulhern provided highlights and overview of the proposed budget. The budget includes two additional patrol officers. The increases in the personnel line items increases include contractual costs. The radio communications line item includes increases due to adding an additional site location and annual increases for software upgrades, etc. Capital items include the purchase of 5 vehicles. The cost to purchase and outfit have both increased.

Officers Manward and Healy continue with field training, they still have a couple more phases.

Correspondence and Letters of Recognition included a letter from Chairman Massey of the Fire Commission concerning repairs at Fire Department when the department vacates. A letter was

received concerning Officers Johnson and McCone. A noteworthy performance concerning Officer Johnson and his efforts with an individual suffering from a mental health crisis.

**Building Renovation Update:** Deputy Chief Alves reported that the project is moving along at a fast pace. Selective demo is taking place on the upper and lower levels. The slab is about 95% completely removed from the lower level including the walls. There is some concern with the sub surface soils. That is being evaluated by a Geotechnical Engineer. All underground utilities will be complete in about 2-3 months. The furniture budget is complete and will be presented to the PBC in two weeks.

Motion made by Commissioner Nash to approve the budget as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Ciociola to enter executive session at 5:59 p.m. to interview one certified candidate and one recruit candidate for Patrol Officer positions. Present during executive session were: Commissioners Austin, Heggie-Margolis, Ciociola, Wiel-Wilkins and Nash. Also present were: Police Chief Jon Mulhern, Deputy Chief Alves, and candidates Adriana Carrasco and Garrett Barnes during their respective interviews.

Return to regular meeting at 6:17 p.m. For the record no votes were taken while in executive session.

Motion made by Commissioner Heggie-Margolis to extend an offer of employment with a start date of March 25, 2025 to Adriana Carrasco. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Ciociola to extend an offer of employment with a start date of March 26, 2025 to Garrett Barnes. Seconded by Commissioner Nash. Vote unanimous.

Motion made by Commissioner Ciociola to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk