

**HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2011
EAST HAVEN BEACHHOUSE
150 COSEY BEACH AVENUE**

A Special Meeting of the Honorable Board of Police Commission was held on December 5, 2011.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frederick Brow

Roll Call: Virginia Williams, Secretary

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairman Frederick Brow, Vice-Chairman Joseph Civitello, Commissioner James Krebs, Commissioner Frank Piergrossi and Commissioner Carl Perez.

Also present: Videographers ETV and FC Foley.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

Chairman Brow mentioned the passing of Police Commissioner Pasquale Pat Romano who passed away late last month.

Approval of Minutes:

Special Meeting, August 10, 2011

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting on August 10, 2011, seconded by Commissioner Perez. All in favor.

Motion carried

Regular Monthly Meeting, September 27, 2011

A motion was made by Commissioner Piergrossi to accept the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting on September 27, 2011, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.

Special Meeting October 19, 2011

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Civitello to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting on October 19, 2011, seconded by Commissioner Krebs. All in favor. Motion carried.

Special Meeting November 15, 2011

A motion was made by Commissioner Piergrossi to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting on November 15, 2011, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Monthly Reports for October/November 2011.

A motion was made by Commissioner Piergrossi to accept the monthly reports for October and November 2011, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED/SENT

1. Officer Lisa Scaramella: Re: Retirement effective 11/19/11
2. Youth Detective Michael D'Amato: Re: Retirement effective 12/16/11
3. Jonathan Smith, US Dept of Justice: Re: E.H.P.D. Investigation (Read by Commissioner James Krebs)
4. Chief Gallo: Re: Police Commissioners in building
5. Chairman Fred Brow: Re: IA 2011-9 and IA 2011-10

Chairman Brow made the following statement: Mr. Gallo does not live in East Haven but he comes back to work and takes over a public building and grounds as if he is part of a Fiefdom. He should read the East Haven Town Charter and refer to the organizational chart of the East Haven Police Department, which clearly shows that he is subordinate to the Board of Police Commissioners. Due to not having access to the building the board cannot complete their work. I've enclosed a copy of the Organizational Chart to be attached to the minutes.

Chairman Brow commented that he spoke with Union President Sgt. John Miller regarding the current list the board has for Lieutenant and explained that he could not utilize the list due to the hiring freeze. He also stated that he asked for a Sergeants test and Grade C test in the spring and they both have not been given. He also commented that he has a Certified List that just became available but cannot hire due to the hiring freeze.

Chairman Brow commented that he did speak with Arthur Desorbo, Director of Administration & Management and was told by him that hopefully the freeze won't be for too long. The position for the Record Room Clerk has also been put on hold due to the hiring freeze.

1. Consider/act regarding setting the meeting dates for the Honorable Board of Police Commission for the year 2012.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs that the Board will meet on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center during the year 2012, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Consider/act upon accepting the retirement of Youth Detective Michael D'Amato to become effective December 16, 2011. Youth Officer D'Amato has also requested Supernumerary Status.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to accept the retirement of Youth Officer Michael D'Amato to become effective on December 16, 2011 and hold the Supernumerary request until after his retirement. We can act on this at the next

meeting of the board, seconded by Commissioner Perez. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Consider/act upon accepting the retirement of Officer Lisa Scaramella to become effective November 19, 2011.

A motion was made by Commissioner Piergrossi to accept the retirement of Officer Lisa Scaramella to become effective November 19, 2011, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Brow, on the behalf of the board, wished Officer Scaramella well and thanked her for her 25 years of service to the Town of East Haven.

4. Discussion/action regarding the filling of the Clerk Attendant Position in the Record Room at Police Headquarters.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to table this for future reference, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Discussion/action on engaging the services of an Attorney to represent the East Haven Board of Police Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to engage the services of an attorney for the East Haven Police Department, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor.

Commissioner Krebs stated he would like to make a motion to put the name of Attorney Patricia Cofranceso, who has worked diligently with the town, concerning the goings on with the Department of Justice and FBI and he would like to retain her to guide us through this trying time, seconded by Commissioner Perez. All in favor. Motion carried.

At this time Chairman Brow made the following statement:

On November 30, 2011 Police Chief Leonard Gallo issued a General order prohibiting the Police Commissioners from the interior or exterior of Police Headquarters "without invitation or appointment from the Chief of Police."

Additionally, the General Order precludes sworn personnel and civilian personnel from discussing any Police matters, reports, scheduling or other related police matters with Commissioners or non-sworn personnel. Any deviation from this order will, according to Mr. Gallo, result in a Report to the Chief and potential disciplinary action.

The order issued by the Chief, as the same pertains to the Board of Police Commissioners, is in contravention of the powers solely vested in the Board of Police Commissioners by Charter and Department Rules and Regulations. It is also a violation of State Statute.

In seeking to contest this General Order, the Board of Police Commissioners is in need of Counsel. Any present Town Attorney is conflicted out from representing the Board in this matter. Accordingly, it is necessary to seek the assistance of outside Counsel.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to adjourn, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor.

Chairman Brow adjourned meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Virginia Williams, Secretary