

**EAST HAVEN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
EAST HAVEN SENIOR CENTER
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2012**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Honorable Board of Police Commission was held on Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

Chairman Brow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call: Virginia Williams, Secretary
Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Cofrancesco, Videographer ETV, various news media and citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting 12/27/11

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of 12/27/11, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried

A motion was made by Commissioner Piregrossi to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held 1/18/12, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried

Approval of Monthly Reports: January 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to approve the Monthly Reports for January 2012, with the exception of Chief Gallo's report, since the board hasn't received any reports since his return to work, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to amend the Agenda to include Public Comment, seconded by Vice-Chairman Civitello. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following are some of the remarks from the citizens etc. present:

Andrew Santomassimo: Felt that the agenda this evening was political and that the board did nothing for the 18 months Chief Gallo was out on administrative leave which allowed him to accumulate sick and vacation time. The board asking the Mayor to terminate him will not benefit anyone and certainly not the taxpayers.

Attorney Joseph Zullo: Commented that the Learn Committee not be disbanded, that it was a highly valuable tool to move forward and begin the healing process. He recommended that they table this item or reject it.

Mr. Gallagher: Commented that he was appalled that the New Haven Register made the "Taco" incident infamous (he referred to Pearl Harbor) He also felt that the action against the officers was also appalling and that the Bonds placed on them were set very high, as if they were murderers.

Donna Richie: Felt that only snippets were taken out of the tape regarding the Taco incident, which she felt was ridiculous and also offered her services to be on a committee.

Paul Carbone: Stated that if the Chief needs to be fired then the board should also be fired. He commented that the officers are innocent until proven guilty and the town should stand behind them.

Milena Quinto: Criticized Mayor Maturo's Taco remark and that as a Latino he should have had more respect for the Latino Community.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED/SENT (Read by the Secretary)

1. Chairman Brow: Regarding FOI Request of Chief Gallos resident elector status.

2. **Chairman Brow: Regarding: Promotion of Lieutenant and urged to include another Lieutenant in the 2012—2013 budget.**
3. **Chairman Brow: Regarding George Miller/updating policies**
4. **Chairman Brow: Regarding Monthly reports**
5. **Attorney Patricia Cofrancesco: Re: Chief Nappi and the integrity of his office, while out on injury leave.**

Chairman Brow stated that he was still waiting for FOI requests regarding the cost of the dog program and the DARE Officer and other FOI requests.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discussion/Possible Action concerning a recommendation to Mayor Joseph Maturo, Jr. regarding Chief Leonard Gallo.**

A motion was made by Chairman Brow that Leonard Gallo be referred to Mayor Joseph Maturo, the Sole Hiring Authority under the Charter of the Town of East Haven, for discipline, up to, and including termination based upon the following: (Chairman Brow asked the Secretary to read)

He failed to engage the Board of Police Commissioners in revising outdated or obsolete policies and procedures;

He failed to require all Officers to report all uses of force;

He failed to require Supervisors to review, justify, and sign off on all instances of an Officer's use of force;

He failed to provide a Citizen Complaint Process that is readily accessible to the public in both English and Spanish;

He failed to investigate complaints regardless if they were by telephone, fax, email, in person, letter, anonymously or otherwise.

He failed to require that the Investigative officer submit his/her findings to a Supervisor;

He failed to require that the Supervisor review the findings with the Police Officer who is the subject of the Complaint;

He failed to require the same format for all internal investigations;

He failed to use a Risk management Early Warning System to detect potential patterns of at risk conduct or behavior (even after receiving numerous complaints about the same Officer);

He failed to provide guidance, structure and consistency which allowed Police Officers to develop their own independent protocols;

He is responsible for costing the taxpayers of East Haven tens of thousands of dollars in unnecessary overtime;

He failed to enforce Town Ordinances;

He failed to file State-required Racial Profiling Data;

He failed to conduct Internal Investigations;

He illegally barred the Board of Police Commissioners from the interior and exterior of Police Headquarters;

He failed to properly meet his Charter-mandated day to day management responsibilities of the Police Department;

He failed to maintain his residence/elector status as required in the East Haven Police Department Rule Book; and

He failed to provide the Board of Police Commissioners with monthly reports. His supervisory neglect is evident in the Indictment of four Police Officers.

Commissioner Piergrossi commented that it was a sad day for the community and that there was no joy in this room. He further stated that the Captain of the ship is responsible for his ship and that we are a nation of laws with a blessed constitution which has to be obeyed.

Chairman Brow commented that the Chiefs pay out figure could be over \$100,000. He stated that Chief Gallo has not run this department for years and felt it wasn't right and that a line should be drawn. If the

Mayor doesn't terminate him we are going to request an audit of his benefits.

Seconded by Commissioner Krebs. Roll Call Vote: All in favor.

2. Discussion/Possible Action regarding recommendations to Mayor Joseph mature Jr. to disband the Learn Committee (Law Enforcement Advisory Resource Network)

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs that the Board of Police Commission recommend that this Committee be disbanded. He felt that the Board was usurped and that several members on this committee should not be on it. He further went on to say that the board has complete control over instituting policy, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Chairman Brow also felt that the boards authority was also usurped by the Mayor, that the Charter was very clear.

Commissioner Piergrossi also commented that all of a sudden this Committee was formed and that the power was taken away from the board. He stated that We are not the bad guys, what happened has happened.

Chairman Brow commented that the Board knew nothing of this meeting and that he had to FOI the Administration, which has not discussed anything with the board since they took office.

3. Discussion/Possible Action the filing of a Complaint Against Mayor Joseph Mauro, Jr. with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities arising out of his comments surrounding the racial profiling allegations, the Justice Department investigation, and the indictment of four (4) East Haven Police Officers.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Civitello that the Board of Police Commissioners request the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities commence an investigation concerning the activities and statements of Mayor Joseph Mauro, Jr. arising out of his comments surrounding racial profile allegations, the Department of Justice Investigation, and the indictments of four (4)

East Haven Police Officers as well as the Police Department itself, pursuant to the Provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 46a-58, 46a 64(a)(2) and 46a-71(b) as well as 8-14c of the Connecticut Statutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Krebs. Roll Call Vote. All in favor.

Committee Reports: None

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez to amend this agenda regarding the Advisory Committee, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to create a Sub-Committee which will be called the Board of Police Commission Advisory Sub Committee to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Police Commission. This committee will become effective February 1, 2012 which will consist of two unpaid members, Mr. Fred Brow and Mr. James Krebs, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. Roll Call Vote: all in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krebs to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor.

Chairman Brow adjourned meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Virginia Williams, Secretary