

**HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MARCH 26, 2013  
EAST HAVEN SENIOR CENTER, 91 TAYLOR AVENUE, EAST HAVEN, CT**

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

1. Roll Call:
2. Pledge of Allegiance

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairman Lou Crisci, Vice-Chairman Jose Velazquez, Commissioner Frank Piergrossi, Commissioner Paul Constantinople and Commissioner Joseph Civitello.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Brent Larrabee, Deputy Chief John Mannion, and Attorney Lawrence Sgrignari, Attorney Joseph Zullo, Father John Lavorgna, Father Tom Sievel, Kathryn O'Toole Joint Compliance Officer, Det. Robert Ranfone President Local 1662, Lt. Edward Lennon and citizens.

3. To consider and act upon the approval of the Regular Monthly Meeting on February 26, 2013 and Special Meeting on March 7, 2013.

A motion was made by Commissioner Civitello to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting on February 26, 2013, seconded by Vice-Chairman Velazquez. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Civitello to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 7, 2013, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried

4. To consider and act upon the approval of the monthly reports for March 2013.

A motion was made by Commissioner Civitello to approve the monthly reports for March 2013, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Detective Ranfone, President Local 1662, addressed the board and stated that there is always a formality in retirement and that there is nothing in Article 12, Section 8 of the Police Union that mentions the Board of Police Commission. He commented that once an officer retires he is already a

supernumerary, unless for just cause. He stated that he didn't know that the board took control of supernumerary status.

Attorney Zullo commented that the Board of Police Commission is the hiring authority accept for the Chief of Police and also said that you're hiring an officer who is no longer an employee.

Chairman Crisci stated that it would make sense that the Board of Police Commission would make that decision.

Chief Larrabee commented that this has been answered already. Supernumeraries have no status or contractual benefits and that every request for Supernumerary status has come before the board. I feel it's the board's responsibility.

The Union has a proposal in the upcoming contract that they want the Chief of Police to have the authority to hire supernumeraries. The Chief commented that this cannot be done and it has been discussed and that he would be filing an MPP regarding this issue.

**6. Committee Reports: None**

**7. Correspondence Received/Sent**

- a. Sgt. Gary DePalma: Re: Retirement and supernumerary status.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. William Candella, 330 Silver Sands Road: Addressed the board once again requesting that the board authorize a No Parking Sign on William Street near the corner of Silver Sands Road.

He commented that he went through the chain of command starting with the Mayor, the Chief and then the Board of Police Commission. He stated that all he wanted was a sign for safety reasons and asked that they please put one up.

Chairman Crisci mentioned that his request has been looked into at least 3 times but that he would go by and look at it himself personally.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

## **1. Meeting with Joint Compliance Expert**

**Attorney Lawrence Sgrignari introduced Kathleen O'Toole who has been retained to work with the Town of East Haven and the Department of Justice as the Joint Compliance Officer.**

**Mrs. O'Toole commented to the board that she rose through the ranks starting at the Boston Police Department and then to Internal affairs in the Detective Bureau. She received her law degree and then became head of the Massachusetts State Police and then became head of the Boston Police Department, where she resigned 15 years ago. She is currently the head of the Irish National Police Force in Ireland and is a consultant. She said in her heart she will always be a police officer and that the trust between the community and police is very important. She asked that we always keep communication open. She further stated that between the Department of Justice and the Town she is the middle person. The Chief and Attorney Sgrignari have all her contact numbers and she can be reached at any time. Mrs. O'Toole thanked everyone for the opportunity and that she would be available any time the board may need her.**

**Chairman Crisci welcomed Mrs. O'Toole on behalf of the Board.**

## **2. Personnel**

**Chairman Crisci made a motion to move Item #2 to the end of the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. Roll Call Vote. All in favor.**

## **3. To consider and act upon Proposed Standing Rules to govern the Police Commission.**

**Chairman Crisci discussed the Standing Rules of the East Haven Board of Police Commissioners.**

**A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Velazquez to accept the Proposed Standing Rules to govern the Police Commission, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **4. To consider and act upon the retirement of Sergeant Gary DePalma to become effective on March 14, 2012. Supernumerary status is requested.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Piergrossi to accept the retirement of Sergeant Gary DePalma to become effective on March 14, 2013, seconded by Commissioner Civitello. All in favor. Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Velazquez to grant Supernumerary Status to Sergeant Gary DePalma, seconded by Commissioner Piergrossi. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **2. Personnel**

Attorney Zullo asked that if any of the individuals mentioned in the Personnel notes were notified and made aware that they were possibly going to be discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman Crisci stated that we would hear the Chiefs Personnel notes in open session rather than go into executive session.

Chief Larrabee read the following:

Officer Dennis Spaulding is on paid administrative leave-return is unknown

Sgt. Nick Kattis is on injured on duty status, return is imminently

Officer Victoria Conte is on injured on duty status-return is doubtful

Officer Monique Colbert is on injured on duty status—return is imminently

Officer Ryan Gorman will graduate from the academy on March 25<sup>th</sup>. then enter his 400 hour field training program.

Officer Michael Jobes will graduate from the academy on March 25<sup>th</sup>. then enter his 400 hour field training program.

Officer Franschesca Ojeda will graduate from the academy sometime in June, then she will enter her 400 hour field training program

Officer Mark Fitzgerald will start his 6 month basic recruit training on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Sean Moriarty will start his 6 month basic recruit training on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Officer Milton DeJesus resigned as of Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>.

We currently have 3 patrol officer positions vacant-new test sometime in April

**The Youth Detective position remains unfilled**

**D.A.R.E. Officer David Torello does not count against overtime**

**The Chief commented that although we have 48 people on the payroll, we have above named individuals we cannot use which is the reason overtime usage is so high. Actually we are working with only 36.**

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

**Chairman Crisci adjourned meeting at 7:28 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Virginia Williams, Secretary**