

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 7, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: Denese Taylor-Moye, Co-chair; Richard Salter, Melanie Jackson; Jack Banta, Alfredo Castillo (6:13 p.m.)

OTHERS: C. Smith, Central Grants Director; Autumn Hurst, Central Grants, Lt. Straubel, Bridgeport Police.

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Taylor-Moye called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES: MARCH 2, 2015

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA MOVED THE MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2015.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2015 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

51-14 Grant Submission: re State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Justice Assistance Formula (JAG) Violent Crime Prevention Grant Program (#15216).

Ms. Hurst came forward and distributed a Grant Information Sheet. She said that there had been notification that the City had been awarded \$34,000 for the training.

Council Member Castillo joined the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Council Member Taylor-Moye asked how the officers were chosen. Lt. Straubel said that it was a training class for all the officers on handling the domestic violence calls and assessing the potential of lethality for the parties involved. The program has been recognized as reducing the numbers of murders and the levels of serious injury in high risk situations.

Council Member Taylor-Moye asked if there were matching funds required. Lt. Straubel said that no matching funds were required.

Council Member Banta asked about the target population. Lt. Straubel said that domestic violence now starts at 18 years and involves intimate personal relationships. He listed some of the key indicators where there would be concerns.

Council Member Banta had several other detailed questions, which Lt. Straubel answered.

Council Member Salter asked about the course running from May to December. Ms. Hurst explained that it was the limits of the State grant.

Council Member Castillo asked if the City would be requesting this grant again. Ms. Hurst and Ms. Smith said that this one appeared to be fairly new and it was based on population. Lt. Straubel said that Bridgeport was the largest city that would be participating in the LAP (Lethality Assessment Program) program.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 51-14 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FORMULA (JAG) VIOLENT CRIME PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM (#15216).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

63-14 Appointment of Matthew Cuminotto, Jr. (D) to the Board of Police Commission.

Mr. Cuminotto came forward and introduced himself. He said that he was a retired police officer and had worked for the Police Department for 38 years, most of which was as a detective. He also served in Vietnam. He lives in the District.

Council Member Banta asked when he had retired. Mr. Cuminotto said that he retired in 2012. Council Member Banta asked if there was an internal Police investigation agency. Mr. Cuminotto said that the Chief and Assistant Chief would investigate any issues.

Commissioner Jackson asked what the role of the Commissioner would be. Mr. Cuminotto said that in the past, the Commissioners had a disciplinary role, but that this was changed recently. The Chief will now handle discipline. The Commission will review policy changes and traffic issues such like placement of traffic lights or stop signs.

Council Member Banta asked Mr. Cuminotto if he had ever been suspended from the Police Force. Mr. Cuminotto said that he had been suspended for five days about 15 years ago and gave the details. Council Member Banta thanked Mr. Cuminotto for his honesty.

Council Member Salter commented that Mr. Cuminotto's background would be very helpful in the decision making process. Council Member Castillo agreed.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she felt that she admired Mr. Cuminotto for giving back to the community and felt Mr. Cuminotto would be an asset for the Commission.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 63-14 APPOINTMENT OF MATTHEW CUMINOTTO, JR. (D) TO THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services