

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020**

Zoom Meeting:

<https://www.bridgeportct.gov/policecommission>

The meeting was called to order at **6:14 p.m.**

Item #1

Roll call of Commissioners:

Diaz, Cuminotto, Roach, Lyons, Farrow, and Cruz. **Also present:** Chief Armando J. Perez, Lieutenant Manuel Cotto, Sergeant Bradford Seely, Sergeant Joel Carley, and Sergeant Adam Rozum.

Item #2

a. None

b: A moment of silence was observed for retired Officer Michael J. Kalagian who passed away on July 14, 2020.

c. A moment of silence was observed for retired Officer Edward J. Hall who passed away on July 24, 2020.

d. On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the board unanimously voted to approve the minutes listed as item **2d**.

e. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Diaz, the board unanimously voted to approve the minutes listed as **2e**.

Item #3

Reports:

- a. **Chief:** Chief Armando J. Perez presented the following to the board: The Chief and Assistant Chief are working closely with the new Health Director, Lisa Morrissey and Audrey Gaines regarding many issues concerning COVID-19 and Public Health safety. The Chief attended a video conference with Mayor Lightfoot of Chicago and Chief Charles Ramsey regarding current events and recent report. The investigation continues with the Justice department and FBI regarding the courthouse shooting resulting in the arrest of five individuals responsible for the shooting. A new class of 21 police recruits will start the police academy in September or October. A detective test was just completed on August 18, and four new sergeants were promoted on August 10, Sergeant Caiazzo, Martinez, Paoletti, and Jarrett. Chief Perez is greatly concerned with the direction of the housing authority, recent meeting with new director and Chief regarding recent shooting, the Chief also met with the victims of this shooting. Chief Perez is also very concerned with the current health conditions that exist at PTB housing complex and asks the new BHA administration and Public Facilities to address these issues immediately. Chief Perez, command staff, and gang unit will be meeting with PTB residents on 08-19-2020. Chief Perez would like to recognize the work of Assistant Chief Garcia who has initiated a program with Liberation Programs which started on 08-18-2020 in the areas of Park and Wood Avenue. Liberation addresses substance abuses and offers many services including an on-site Mobile Wellness Van. Commissioner Lyons expressed concern to Chief

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Perez regarding the on-going issues with SHU students and large parties/social gatherings in residential areas in the North End. The Chief indicated that he will be addressing these issues with Gary McNamara, SHU Public Safety Director, to ensure public safety and quality of life is maintained for residents in this area. Commissioner Roach expressed concerns to Chief Perez of the increased presence of children and young adults on quads in the Fairfield Avenue area of Back Rock. The Chief is addressing this issue with special enforcement details that seize and tow this type of vehicle and issue \$500.00 fines. Commissioner Cruz expressed support of all BPD officers and asked Chief Perez to invite the board to community events. Chief Perez also stated he supports the work of all BPD officers especially during these difficult times with COVID-19 and protest concerns locally and nationally.

- b. **Union:** Sergeant Seely presented the following to the board: The Union is very concerned regarding HB-6004 and will be working with State and local legislators to work on improving the bill. The union is concerned with several issues in the bill, these include consent searches, an appointment of the Attorney General to oversee discipline matters, mental health, and liability coverage of members. The board asked if the union has taken a vote regarding their objection to HB-6004 and Sergeant Seely indicated that it was not necessary for the union to vote on this matter. Sergeant Seely recognized Officer Cyndy Trinh for her volunteer work with AFSCME. Sergeant Seely updated the board regarding the Detective exam that was completed on 08-18 and that there are currently 17 openings for detectives in the DB. Commissioner Farrow asked Sergeant Seely if the bill had good points and he indicated the need for increased and annual training with the assistance from POSTC.

Executive Session: None

- c. **OIA:** A monthly report by the OIC of Internal Affairs was submitted to the Police Commission.

Public Session:

d. **Clerk:**

- a. Barros hearings scheduled for OIA Case Number: 17I-200 for August 24, and 26, 2020.
- b. The board was notified of OIA Case Number: 18I-144.
- c. The board was notified of Second-Step Barros Case: 19I-080 and a Barros Second-Step hearing is scheduled for September 22, 2020.

Special Reports: None

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Item #4

New Businesses:

a. On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the board unanimously voted to approve item **4a-Policy and Procedure General Order: 7.03.** On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, the board unanimously voted to approve item **4a-Policy and Procedure General Order: 6.12.** On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the board unanimously voted to approve item **4a-Policy and Procedure General Order: 4.03.** Lieutenant Cotto also reported to the board that the department just passed a CLESP audit and are one step closer to accreditation. Policy and Procedure General Order 1 and 2 are on the City of Bridgeport Website and Lieutenant Cotto continues to work towards having the entire BPD Policy and Procedure Manual online. An awards ceremony is planned soon when all COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted.

Item #5

Old Business:

Item #6

Correspondence: None

Item #7

Letters of Appreciation: None

Item #8

Widow's Pension (PlanA):

a. On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the board unanimously voted to approve item **8a.**

Item #9

Other Scheduled Matters a:

a-i: On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, the board unanimously voted to approve item: **9a-i.**

a-ii: On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the board unanimously voted to approve item **9a-ii.**

Other Scheduled Matters b:

b-i: On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the board unanimously voted to table this matter.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded Commissioner Lyons, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at **7:52 p.m.**

**BOARD RECONVENES AS THE TRUSTEE OF THE POLICE REFUND
"PLAN-A"**

7:53 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS FOR PENSION PLAN "A" MEMBER:

Cruz, Farrow, Diaz, Lyons, Roach, and Cuminotto.

1. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, the board unanimously voted to approve the request of Mrs. Jeanne B. Hall to receive a widow's pension (Plan-A), effective immediately.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Commissioner Farrow and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at **7:54 p.m.**

NO/