

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

Zoom Meeting:

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Item #1

Roll call of Commissioners:

Lyons, Cruz, Roach, Cuminotto, and Diaz. **Also present:** Chief Rebeca Garcia, Lieutenant Manuel Cotto, Sergeant Joel Carley, Sergeant Adam Rozum.

Item #2

a. None

b. A moment of silence was observed for retired Detective Carl W. Hatch who passed away on October 10, 2020.

c. A moment of silence was observed for retired Officer William J. Gombar who passed away on October 15, 2020.

d. e, and f: On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Diaz, the board unanimously voted to combine and approve the minutes listed as 2d, e, and f.

Item #3

Reports:

a. **Chief:** Chief Rebeca Garcia presented the following to the board: Allocation Plan for 2021 has been submitted with numerous changes scheduled. Detectives list has been certified by Civil Service and the Chief is awaiting a final signature from the Mayor's office to promote 10 police officers to the rank of detective and 1 police officer to the rank of sergeant. The Chief reports the department applied for a grant with RYSAP for \$125,000 COVID related crime reduction. The Strategic Enforcement Unit continues to work on Friday and Saturday evenings and with the approval of the grant, will be extended to include Thursday through Saturday-4:00 pm to 4:00 am. Retirements include one officer on 11/13/20 and one sergeant on 11/20/20. Eighty officers are eligible to retire in 2021. Several letters of interest for numerous positions have been posted by the Chief's office. Stipulations regarding the Police Accountability Bill pertaining to police officer wellness and testing programs will begin on January 1, 2021. Roll out and funding of the Bill is being discussed. The Strategic Enforcement Unit continues to work on the weekends (4-12 shift) to reduce violence, shots fired, etc. in hot spot areas. The Chief just recently had a meeting with City Council members to discuss a reduction in the police budget and providing increased social services to the community. Chief Garcia stressed that several programs are in place currently assisting the community and these include the Liberation Program/Mobile Van and RYSAP. The Chief is also addressing juvenile matters through Project Longevity and she has created an ad hoc committee headed by Lieutenant Manuel Cotto to work with City Council members and the community.

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Currently there are 43 detectives assigned to the detective bureau and several vacancies. Commissioner Cruz asked Chief Garcia to clarify how the \$125,000 grant will be applied to COVID related police matters. Chief Garcia responded that the money would be used to conduct compliance checks at Social Clubs throughout the City. The Chief indicated that six clubs have been identified with non-compliance COVID related issues and is being addressed by the department. Commissioner Roach asked Chief Garcia what kind of the working relationship exists between the police and health departments. The Chief indicated a very good relationship exists between both departments and that she works closely with Director Morrissey including on-site visits to establishments that violate COVID related protocol. Currently, the State is looking to hire a health compliance officer who would collaborate efforts between the health and police departments. The Chief indicated that the training academy oversees the recruitment effort and is working with Civil Service for a future entry level police officer examination.

b. Union: None

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. A Barros hearing is scheduled for OIA Case 17I-206 on December 1 and 8, 2020. The regular monthly BOPC meeting for December is scheduled for the 15th.

Special Reports: None

Item #4 New Businesses: None

Item #5 Old Business:

a. On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Cuminotto, the board unanimously voted to approve Policy and Procedures/General Order: **9.04, 9.05, 9.06, 9.07, and Department Policy Section 10.**

Item #6 Correspondence:

a. Noted

Item #7 Letters of Appreciation: None

Item #8 Widow's Pension:

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

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Item #9 **Other Scheduled Matters a:** None

Other Scheduled Matters b: None

Adjournment: 7:08 p.m.

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

Lyons, Cruz, Roach, Cumintto, and Diaz

1 and 2: On a motion by Commissioner Cuminotto and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the board unanimously voted to combine and approve the request of Mrs. Patricia F. Hatch and Mrs. Dorothy M. Gombar to receive a widow's pension (Plan-A), effective immediately.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Cuminotto, the board unanimously voted to adjourn at **7:10 p.m.**

NO/