

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY HALL, WHEELER ROOMS A AND B  
JULY 25, 2023**

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Falberg called the special meeting of the Civil Service Commission to order at 4:32 p.m. Present were Commissioners Ford, Grech, Hall and Rodgers; Personnel Director Eric Amado; Clerk to the Commission Deborah Brelsford; Atty. John Mitola, Brenden Bish, Sgt. Lawrence Lazaro, OIA; Sumit Sharma, Acting Health Director; Eric Lopez, Mr. Lopez, Sr.; Atty. Thomas Bucci; Ryan Dean, Sgt. J. Topolski, David Alvarez III; Mary Jane Alvarez, David Alvarez, Jr.; Ariana Alvarez

**CONSENT AGENDA: MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON**

**1. Meeting Minutes**

The Minutes from the regular meeting on June 13, 2023 are submitted for review.

**2. Merit Increases – Certify for Payroll**

**MERIT INCREASES FOR JULY 11, 2023 C.S.C MEETING**

<b><u>FIRE</u></b>	<b><u>JOB TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2023</u></b>
RYAN HATHAWAY	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
JACOB TORRES	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
MICHAEL JULIAN	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
ROGER MARTINEZ	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
DENNIS OLMSTAED	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
ALEXANDER DANIELS	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
PHILIP DUNCAN	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
ANTONIO DIAS	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
JONATHAN WALSH	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
ALEXANDER POLING	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
AMARYILLIS COLON	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
JOSEPH CRUPI	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
AUSTIN HATHAWAY	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
CHAJA PLOE	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
JORDAN TOWNSEND	FIRE FIGHTER	\$58,454.00 (2) TO \$65,996.00 (3)
ANDREW ELLIS	ASSISTANT CHIEF	\$110,579.00 (2) TO \$117,065.00 (3) TOP
SCOTT BORIS	ASSISTANT CHIEF	\$110,579.00 (2) TO \$117,065.00 (3) TOP

STEP INCREASES JULY 1, 2023			
Dept	Employee	Position	Increase
Info Technology Services	David Anton	Spec Project Manager (GIS)	\$76,372 (1) to \$77,900 (2)

### 3. Permanent Appointments – Certify for Payroll

PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS – JULY 2023 MEETING				
ID#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	JOB TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
221779	Murphy	John	Deputy Building Official	6/12/2023
220877	Hebert	Thomas	BOE - Carpenter	6/13/2023

### PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS

Dept	Employee	Position	Effective
Info Technology Services	Bajram Lumani	Application Specialist	1/27/2022

### POLICE PERMANENCY JULY 11, 2023 C.S.C. MEETING

<u>POLICE</u>	<u>JOB TITLE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
PAUL GRECH	POLICE CAPTAIN	7/11/2023
MANUEL COTTO	POLICE CAPTAIN	7/11/2023
JOHN CUMMINGS	POLICE CAPTAIN	7/11/2023
TAMARA GARCIA	POLICE OFFICER	7/25/2023
LUISA MERCED	POLICE OFFICER	7/25/2023
ADAM SALCE	POLICE OFFICER	7/25/2023
CHRISTOPHER MATARAZZO	POLICE OFFICER	7/25/2023
VICTOR RRAPI	POLICE OFFICER	7/25/2023

### 4. Vacancy Report

VACANCIES			
		Report - 7/11/2023	
<u>Competitive Positions</u>	<u>Former</u>		<u>Replacement</u>
NONE			
<u>Non-Competitive Positions</u>	<u>Former</u>		<u>Replacement</u>
<b>PUBLIC FACILITIES</b>			
Maintainer I Grade I	John Castro		Vacant
Seasonal Maintainer I	Seasonal		Vacant
<b>HEALTH DEPARTMENT</b>			
Senior Vital Records Customer Clerk	Deborah Wood		Vacant
Director of Youth Services / Lighthouse	Tammy Papa		Vacant

<b>CAO</b>		
Clerical Assistant (PT)	New	Vacant
<b>LIBRARY</b>		
Custodian I	New	Vacant

**\*\*COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON**

**5. Request for 6-month Waiver**

The Commission has received a request for a 6-month waiver for Exam #2380 hiring list from entry level Firefighter applicant Brenden Bish.

Mr. Bish came forward and greeted the Commissioners. He explained that he was requesting the waiver because there were other obligations that would prevent him from attending all the training sessions.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR A 6-MONTH WAIVER FOR EXAM #2380 HIRING LIST FROM ENTRY LEVEL FIREFIGHTER APPLICANT BRENDEN BISH.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**6. Request to Rescind Resignation**

The Commission has received a request from Matthew Hoffman to rescind his resignation from the Bridgeport Police Department as Police Officer.

Sgt. Lawrence Lazaro from OIA came forward and said that former Officer Hoffman had submitted a request to rescind his resignation from the Bridgeport Police Department. This request was within the Charter time frame. Sgt. Lazaro confirmed that Officer Hoffman was eligible for re-hiring.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM MATTHEW HOFFMAN TO RESCIND HIS RESIGNATION FROM THE BRIDGEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT AS POLICE OFFICER.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. Updated Job Description**

The Commission has received a request to approve the updated job description for Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Mr. Amado gave a brief overview of the details and said that the job description had been reviewed by the union. Mr. Sharma said that the job description had not been updated in some time.

Commissioner Ford asked if the salary was comparable to other Assistant Registrars in neighboring towns. He was told that it was.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO APPROVE THE UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRECH SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **8. Appeal – Eric Lopez**

The Commission has received a request for an appeal from Eric Lopez, regarding his disqualification from the hiring process from entry level Police Officer examination #2375 due to habits and conduct. He is represented by Attorney Thomas Bucci.

Mr. Amado presented the item. Mr. Amado asked if Mr. Lopez wished to have the appeal heard in Executive Session or Public Session. Atty. Bucci said that his client wished to have the appeal heard in Executive Session.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HALL MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE APPEAL HEARING FOR ERIC LOPEZ, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, Mr. Amado, Ms. Brelsford, Atty. Mitola, Atty. Bucci, Mr. Lopez and Mr. Lopez, Sr. entered into Executive Session at 4:44 p.m. They returned to Public Session at 4:58 p.m. No actions were taken or motions made during Executive Session.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FALBERG ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS TO VOTE ON THE APPEAL FROM ERIC LOPEZ, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT.**

**COMMISSIONER HALL MOVED TO GRANT THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER GRECH MOVED TO GRANT THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO GRANT THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER RODGERS MOVED TO GRANT THE APPEAL.**

**\*\* THE APPEAL FROM ERIC LOPEZ, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER**

**EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**9. Appeal – Ryan Dean**

The Commission has received a request for an appeal from Ryan Dean, regarding his disqualification from the hiring process from entry level Police Officer examination #2375 due to habits and conduct. He is represented by Attorney Thomas Bucci.

Mr. Amado presented the item. Mr. Amado asked if Mr. Dean wished to have the appeal heard in Executive Session or Public Session. Atty. Bucci said that his client wished to have the appeal heard in Executive Session.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HALL MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE APPEAL HEARING FOR RYAN DEAN, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commissioners, Mr. Amado, Ms. Brelsford, Atty. Mitola, Atty. Bucci, Sgt. Lazaro, Sgt. Topolski and Mr. Dean entered into Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. They returned to Public Session at 5:30 p.m. No actions were taken or motions made during Executive Session.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FALBERG ASKED THE COMMISSIONERS TO VOTE ON THE APPEAL FROM RYAN DEAN, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT.**

**COMMISSIONER HALL MOVED TO DENY THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER GRECH MOVED TO DENY THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO DENY THE APPEAL.**

**COMMISSIONER RODGERS MOVED TO DENY THE APPEAL.**

**\*\* THE APPEAL FROM ERIC LOPEZ, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICER EXAMINATION #2375 DUE TO HABITS AND CONDUCT WAS UNANIMOUSLY DENIED.**

**10. Appeal – Dakary Watkins**

The Commission has received a request for an appeal from Dakary Watkins, regarding his disqualification from the hiring process from entry level Police Officer examination #2375 due to habits and conduct. He is represented by Attorney Thomas Bucci.

Mr. Amado presented the item. He stated that a request had been received to table the appeal to the August Meeting.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HALL MOVED TO TABLE THE APPEAL FROM DAKARY WATKINS TO THE AUGUST MEETING.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRECH SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **11. Appeal - David Alvarez**

The Commission has received a request for an appeal from David Alvarez, regarding his disqualification from the hiring process from the Public Safety Telecommunicator examination #2383.

Mr. Amado presented the item. Mr. Amado asked if Mr. Alvarez wished to have the appeal heard in Executive Session or Public Session. Mr. Alvarez said that he wished to have the appeal in Public Session.

Mr. Alvarez III came forward and read a statement to the Commissioners. He then spoke of his business experience at UB and the team work involved. He said that he had successfully passed all the tests prior to the psychological test.

Commissioner Grech asked why he wanted to be a 9-1-1 dispatcher. Mr. Alvarez said that he had always been interested in technology.

Mr. Amado asked about the level of stress that he had experienced. Mr. Alvarez said that in his school work, he had to produce a video that was very stressful. He then said that he had to learn to step back and take a breath.

Commissioner Grech asked him if he was aware of what is involved in the job. Mr. Alvarez said that he had researched it as much as possible.

Atty. Mitola noted that there was a one year probationary period for this job. Mr. Amado said that the dispatchers are moved to the floor after six months.

Commissioner Grech noted that the Dispatch is the officers' lifeline and that seconds often count.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER FORD MOVED TO TABLE APPEAL FROM DAVID ALVAREZ, REGARDING HIS DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE HIRING PROCESS FROM THE PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR EXAMINATION #2383 TO AUGUST FOR A SECOND OPINION AND REFER MR. ALVAREZ FOR A SECOND OPINION.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO TABLE THE APPEAL FOR A SECOND OPINION PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR (FORD, RODGERS AND FALBERG) AND TWO (2) OPPOSED (GRECH AND HALL). IT IS NOTED THAT COMMISSIONER FALBERG VOTED IN ORDER TO BREAK THE TIE.**

*Commissioner Ford left the meeting at 5:52 p.m.*

## **12. Appeal – Dennoa West**

The Commission has received a request for an appeal from Dennoa West regarding the termination of his seasonal employment with the City of Bridgeport Department of Public Facilities as a Seasonal Golf Course Groundskeeper due to failing a portion of his medical examination.

Mr. Amado presented the item. There was no one present for the appeal.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRECH MOVED TO DENY THE APPEAL FROM DENNSOA WEST REGARDING THE TERMINATION OF HIS SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AS A SEASONAL GOLF COURSE GROUNDSKEEPER DUE TO FAILING A PORTION OF HIS MEDICAL EXAMINATION.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HALL SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**13. Legal Report** There was no report at this time.

## **14. Personnel Director Report**

- **Fire Pumper Engineer** – The examiner’s report was included in the information packet. The exam was announced on March 23rd and the exam was held on May 27th, with the practical exam held on May 31st. Candidates were notified of their final ranking on July 7th. Mr. Amado then gave an overview of the scoring results. The established list along with the breakdowns and summaries were included in the information packets.
- **Police Officer Examination # 2385** – Notice for applications has been posted. The current deadline is the end of August, but there may be an extension if needed.

A number of other examinations are in the process including a non-competitive Assistant Police Chief examination.

Mr. Amado asked the Commissioners to encourage anyone interested in applying for the Police Department to do so.

Mr. Amado stated that he discussed with the administration the commission’s concern about the number of marijuana-related appeals coming before them. He added that the administration was working on a statement regarding employee marijuana usage. He had requested a CCM (Connecticut Conference of Municipalities) survey of area towns and the results were extremely varied.

Next regular monthly CSC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- \*\* COMMISSIONER RODGERS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- \*\* COMMISSIONER HALL SECONDED.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Telesco Secretarial Service