

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, March 19, 2024**

Members of the public and media, please type in the following link into your web browser to access our YouTube channel where you may view the Bridgeport Board of Police Commissioners meeting:
<https://www.youtube.com/@bridgeportpolice9071/streams>

This meeting was called to order at **6:04 PM**.

1. Roll Call of Commissioners: Williams, Diaz, Farrow, Roach, Lyons

Also in attendance: Lieutenant Stacey Lyons, Chief Roderick Porter, Councilmember Mathew McCarthy, and Councilmember Enida Martinez.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance – none (no flag on Zoom)
- b. On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 1b.

2. Reports:

- a. **Chief of Police** - Chief Porter provided general updates regarding the academy and crime. The current class in the academy is graduating mid-April and contains around 14 individuals. Chief Porter stated that they began advertising for lateral transfers. Chief Porter stated that they are hoping to have another academy class begin in May. Chief Porter stated that he anticipates a large number of retirements and emphasizes the need for recruitment. Chief Porter stated that crime is continuing to decrease and that there has been one homicide since September, which was solved quickly. Chief Porter stated that the Department started the Nexus Lexus program to see crime statistics in real time, which helps the Department be transparent. Commissioner Farrow asks about trailers parked in front of residential homes and how to address that issue. Chief Porter states that it is legal for such vehicles to stay parked on streets during the day as long as it is not causing any obstruction, however they are not allowed to stay overnight. Such vehicles are an ongoing issue that the Department has been working on.
- b. **Union:** None
- c. **Clerks Report:**
 - i. Lieutenant Lyons addressed the Board about four Barros Hearings that are needed. The Board unanimously voted to schedule the Barros Hearings on April 2, 2024 and April 9th 2024.
 - ii. Commissioner Roach tabled item Cii due to the scheduling conflicts with the involved parties. These hearings will be scheduled at a later date.
 - iii. Lieutenant Lyons addressed the Board regarding four (4) City Tow renewal applications. On a request by Commissioner Diaz and Commissioner Roach, Lieutenant Lyons confirmed that the applications were completed. On a motion

by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Williams, and the Board unanimously voted to approve item 2ciii.

Lieutenant Lyons requested the Board to hold a Special Meeting to approve another tow application that she received.

iv. Update on scheduled Second Step Hearing was covered under item 2cii.

3. New Business:

- a. Councilmember Maria Valle did not attend the meeting.
- b. Lieutenant Stacey Lyons addressed the Board regarding the review and approval of the Department policies G.O. 5.11 Prisoner Transportation and G.O. 5.02 Vehicle Operations. on vehicle operation and prisoner transport. Lieutenant Lyons stated that the state of Connecticut put in public act 23-87 that regulates officers putting seatbelts on any persons being transported in their vehicle with some regulations. Commissioner Roach asked Lieutenant Lyons if any particular incident regarding prisoner transportation occurred that would require or show that the updates and changes were needed. Lieutenant Lyons stated not in Bridgeport. On a motion by Commissioner Farrow seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 3b.

4. Old Business:

- a. Tabled from February 20, 2024 - On a motion Commissioner Diaz, and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 4a.
- b. Tabled from February 20, 2024 - Commissioner Lyons stated that this issue was tabled because the Board wanted more information due to the amount of area requested to have no parking signs. Commissioner Lyons stated that he received a phone call from one of the Councilmen the following day who was borderline rude and questioning what they were doing. Commissioner Lyons stated that the Board should be respected and that in the future Councilmembers should attend the meetings in order to provide more information. Commissioner Farrow agreed with all of Commissioner Lyons's statements and that a level of respect should be given both ways (between the Board and City Council). On a motion by Commissioner Farrow to approve and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 4b
- c.-d Tabled from February 20, 2024 - On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the Board unanimously voted to combine 4c and 4d and approve both.
- e. Tabled from February 20, 2024 - Commissioner Farrow stated that there is handicapped parking in the area already, but the request is to create more. Commissioner Farrow brought up the concern of how many spots is enough. Commissioner Roach stated he does not have too much information on the issue. Commissioner Williams agrees with Commissioner Farrow that there is already handicapped parking, therefore they need more information as to why this request is being made. Commissioner Diaz agrees with Commissioners Farrow and Williams. On a motion to table by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Farrow the Board unanimously voted to table item 4e.

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Letters of Appreciation:** None

7. **Widows Pension:** None

8. **City Engineers Recommendation:**

a. **Request of the City Engineer's Office to Approve the Following:**

i. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 8a.

b. **Request of the city Engineer's Office Not to Approve the Following:**

i. Commissioner Diaz requested more information from Councilwoman Martinez on this request. Councilwoman Martinez stated her concern is how many elderly live in the area of item 8bi and 8bii. Commissioner Williams stated that the handicapped signs are not assigned to one particular person but to everyone that has a handicapped plaque. Lieutenant Lyons stated that the applicant has access to a driveway but would prefer to park in the street as it is closer to the entrance to the home. On a motion by Commissioner Farrow and seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board unanimously voted to approve item 8bi.

ii. On a motion by Commissioner Diaz, seconded by Commissioner Lyons the Board unanimously voted to table item 8bii.

Adjournment: On a motion by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at **6:58 PM.**

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