

**POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL  
AUGUST 12, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Police Commission was called to order by Chairman Cosgrove, at 7:00 pm in the Police Department Training Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were Commissioner Michael Long, Commissioner James Fleming, Chief Nicholas Boulter, Lt. Fred Sifodaskalakis, Lt. Thomas Sheehan and PFC JP Lessard.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

Commissioner Long read the summary of letters received since the last meeting of the Commission on June 10, 2019.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After a motion was made by Commissioner Fleming and seconded by Commissioner Cosgrove, it was unanimously:

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the June 10, 2019 Meeting.

**5. PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

None

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**7. REPORTS**

- **Chairman's Report**

None

- **Chief's Report**

- Overtime update- year over year:
  - Patrol-Non-supervisory shifts down 23%, a difference of 53 shifts.
  - Supervisor shifts were up 5% or 5 shifts year to date. 38 supervisor overtime shifts were prevented this fiscal year because 3 sergeants are assigned to A squad.
  - Dispatch - 10% increase in overtime hours (not shifts) for the fiscal year. Drastic increase in June, mostly due to one dispatcher out on leave for 19 of her 20 scheduled days.
  - Members are taking pay over compensatory time 77% of the time in 2019, compared to 75% in 2018 and 69% of the time in 2017.
- Fiscal Year 2019 budget will be finalized by the end of August.

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- New uniforms are expected to be completed in September.
- Personnel update:
  - Dispatcher maternity leave will create 2-3 overtime shifts per week for an estimated 12 weeks.
  - Sgt. Mark Critz retired leaving a supervisory vacancy to be filled.
  - Sick leave update:
    - One officer has been out on sick leave since March 27, 2019 for a non-work related injury to her ankle. She is not expected to return to duty for a minimum of 3 months.
    - Another officer has been out on sick leave since July 9<sup>th</sup> and is expected to return next week.
    - A third officer has been out on sick leave since June 6<sup>th</sup> and is expected to return to work on August 30.
  - Crossing Guards vacancies have been filled for beginning of the school year. A brief training will be conducted on August 26 and new equipment of bright, reflective gloves and bright umbrellas will be issued.
  - New officers update:
    - PJ Gronski is performing well with field training
    - Connor Arnold is still doing well in the academy.
- Starting research to replace 1 or 2 of the older patrol bicycles that are from 2012 with new style fat-tire bikes. The cost will be between \$2,000 and \$4,000 and paid for from the Asset Forfeiture Account.
  - After discussion, the Police Commissioners decided that they would like to have all purchases from the Asset Forfeiture Account or purchases that need to be approved by Board of Finance or Board of Selectman brought before them for review. The Chief agreed to this process.
- Local Traffic Authority
  - Additional No Turn on Red finally posted on West Street at Route 10.
  - Ely Lane change to one way is still under review.
  - The State has replaced many of the crosswalk signage and roadway signs on state roads.
  - Two straight lanes to one straight lane Owen Brook at Rt 10 is pending signage plan approval from DOT.
  - DOT has reapproved the Big Y plan on the old Wagner property.
- Stuff a cruiser for school supplies was held this past Saturday at Staples. The cruiser was filled with back to school supplies and given to social services to dispense.
- Annual Police Cadet Academy at Westfield State University was held from July 14- 20, 2019. Cadet Andrew Hunter received 2nd place for his performance in the area of felony stops.
- Junior Police Academy ran from July 27-August 2 and was very successful.
- **Consolidated Monthly Report for May and June, 2019**

No significant issues were noted.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

The Chief's presented his recommendation of a candidate for position of Sergeant: JP Lessard joined the police department in April 2013. He came to us with 1 ½ years of experience with the Ansonia Police and 8 years of experience with the United States Army. He was deployed for 2 ½ years in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and served a one year tour in Afghanistan. In addition to the tremendous amount of work related experience (to include supervision as sergeant in the Army) and training that he brought with him to our police department; JP has demonstrated strong values that mirror those of this department. He is intelligent, caring and understanding. His work is thorough and accurate. He works well independently and as part of a team. He is an instructor, a role model and a leader. During his 6+ years with our department, JP has embraced the community policing model. He spent most of his time assigned to the Patrol Division. He has provided extended support to the Detective Division and has served as the Community Services Officer since February 2019. JP performed very well during the promotional exam process and has consistently demonstrated that he possesses and is able to use the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to serve this membership and community as a sergeant. For these reasons and more, I recommend that JP Lessard be promoted to the rank of sergeant, effective August 19, 2019.

PFC Lessard answered a few questions and after a short discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Cosgrove and seconded by Commissioner Long, it was unanimously:

**VOTED:** To approve the promotion of JP Lessard to sergeant.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION** –Accordance with Connecticut General Statutes - §1-200(6)(a) Sergeant Promotion, IBPO Labor Grievances and personnel matters.

After a motion was made by Commissioner Long and seconded by Commissioner Fleming, it was unanimously:

**VOTED:** To adjourn to executive session at 7:45 pm.

At 7:55 pm, executive session concluded.

**10. RECOMMENDATION** for Promotion- previously decided

Chairman Cosgrove announced that Commissioner Fleming and Commissioner Long will be involved in the search committee for the new commissioner.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Long made motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Fleming. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Edward Cosgrove, Chairman  
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