



# SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

11 Franklin Street  
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-2891

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## **REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019 6:30 P.M. 11 FRANKLIN STREET SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Members present:** Robert Koskelowski, William Paecht, David Bitso and Lucy McConologue (Frank Conroy absent) Also in attendance: Chief Satkowski, Deputy Chief Prajer, Deputy Chief Rinaldi, Cmdr. Scharf, Union President Officer Oczkowski, Sgt. J. Martin, Det. Ditria, Det. Matusovich, Cmd., Fappiano, Inspector DeNigris, Sgt. Parratt, Officer Scheithe, Officer Gilloren, Officer T. Martin, Officer Tomasella, Union Attorney and Town Attorney Holcomb.

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Koskelowski
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** was led by Commissioner Paecht

**Moment of silence held for Karen Stanek and Commissioner Paecht's sister.**

3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of minutes of regular meeting on February 20, 2019:**  
William Paecht/David Bitso motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 4:0**
5. **Commissioners Comments:** None.
6. **Old Business:**

William Paecht/David Bitso motion to place on the table light duty in the contract.  
**Motion: 4:0**

**Chairman Koskelowski**-this is to clear up light duty in the future, recommends anyone who is possibly eligible for light duty under the contract has to be approved by the Board. If the light duty falls before a meeting, then Chief Satkowski will contact the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Board and get approval or disapproval. Everyone will be on the same page and make sure its resolved.

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion that anyone who is possibly eligible for light duty under the contract has to be approved by the Board. If the light duty falls before a meeting, then Chief Satkowski will contact the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Board and get approval or disapproval. **Motion: 4:0**

**Telephone (203) 881-7600 Fax (203) 881-7635**

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**Union Grievance: Step 2**

**Chairman Koskelowski**-the grievant would like his six days back when he was taken off light duty. Finds no State Statute that gives the First Selectman the right to overstep the Police Commissioners responsibilities under the Charter, under the legal opinion it states we should work together-both have the authority-even though the Town negotiates the contract, we have to make sure it's enforced, if the First Selectman is going to interfere with our obligations and duties then Step 2 should go to First Selectman. I agree with the grievant.

**Union Attorney**-feels this is a violation of contract as the officer was doing his primary function of his job on light duty and had been doing so for a few weeks.

**Commissioner Paecht**-who has the right, First Selectman or the Board? The way I read it, the First Selectman is in charge of the decision not the Board of Police Commissioners.

**Attorney Holcomb**-the collective bargaining unit is with the town, the judgment and decision of the town is that if a person has been put on light duty doesn't mean they can't be taken off light duty. If a body is going to hear a grievance then perhaps they shouldn't be the ones involved in making the decision because they have to review that decision if a grievance is filled.

**Commissioner McConologue**-decision of the attorneys, whether you agree or not, it does state the First Selectman does have the authority to do that and I feel, for our own protection, we should follow through with it and let the proper authority deal with the grievance themselves.

**Commissioner Bitso**-I don't believe both parties should work together to make a decision, I believe one should govern.

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion to deny and have First Selectman be involved.

**Motion: 3:1** Robert Koskelowski oppose

**Questionnaire/Survey:**

Commissioner Bitso and Commissioner McConologue are working on this for the next meeting and those questions will be brought to the Board for their approval.

**6a) Patrol reports:** Board accepts the reports.

**6b) Detective report:** Board accepts the report.

**6c) K-9 reports:** Board accepts the reports.

**6d) SRO reports:** Board accepts the reports. Sandy Hook promise presentation

**6e) Car Report:** Board accepts the report.

**7. New Business:**

William Paecht/David Bisto motion to place on the table transfers. **Motion: 4:0**

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion to transfer \$ 80,000 from 110 to 130 and transfer \$ 20,000 from 110 to 112. Subject to clarification of the charter. **Motion: 4:0**

- 8. Management Report:** Chief Satkowski reports the First Selectman asked all department heads to review their budgets as he is afraid that state cuts are coming, income doing well, all departments doing a good job, two recruits graduating Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> and radar and time mark trailers will be deployed.

- 9. Correspondence:** Lifesaving awards given to three officers and a letter from a resident thanking Officer Croteau.

**10. Other Business:**

**Chairman Koskelowski** would like to know if the No Parking signs can be placed back up on Columbus Street as these were taken down during construction.

**Commissioner Paecht** wanted to know about the no parking signs by the strand.

**11. Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner McConologue** would like patrol to check on the parks and skate park more now that the days are getting longer.

**Chairman Koskelowski** states that Commissioner Conroy has resigned from the Board. Board of Selectman have 30 days to fill position.

William Paecht/David Bitso motion to place on the table future vacant commander position. **Motion: 4:0**

**Chairman Koskelowski**-has a legal opinion that states if there is one person left on the list then do not have to do a rule of three-have to offer the position to Sergeant Parratt.

**Attorney Holcomb**-in this case there were three originally on the list, the promotional list is effective for one year-so you can't retest until that year has expired.

David Bitso/Lucy McConologue motion to promote Sergeant Parratt to Commander effective May 10, 2019 with a six month probationary period. **Motion: 4:0** Sergeant Parratt accepts.

David Bitso/Lucy McConologue motion to go into executive session at 7:17 p.m. In attendance: The Board, Attorney Holcomb, Union Attorney, Union President Oczkowski, Inspector DeNigris and person on this issue. **Motion: 4:0**

Inspector DeNigris comes out of executive session at 7:52 p.m. and Chief Satkowski goes in.

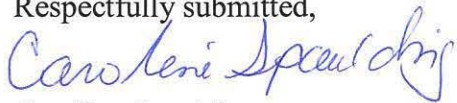
David Bitso/William Paecht motion to come out of executive session at 8:00 p.m. No votes or motions taken. **Motion: 4:0**

**12. Union Business:** None.

**13. Public Comment:** None.

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** William Paecht/David Bitso motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. **Motion: 4:0**

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline Spaulding  
Recording Secretary