



# SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

11 Franklin Street  
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-2891

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## REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018 7:00 P.M. 11 FRANKLIN STREET SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Members present:** Robert Koskelowski, William Paecht, Lucy McConologue and David Bitso. (Frank Conroy absent). Also in attendance: Deputy Chief Prajer, Deputy Chief Rinaldi, Union President Officer Oczkowski, Sgt. Fappiano, the public and the press.

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Koskelowski
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** was led by Chairman Koskelowski
3. **Public Comment:**

**Nancy Martin**, 38 Columbus Street, states her vehicle was towed and wanted to know why when she parked the vehicle off the road, wanted to know when the street gets paved if more handicapped parking spots can be available in front of the building, will there also be sidewalks and can the overnight parking be re-evaluated as there are handicapped tenants who have a hard time walking from the municipal lots.

**Deputy Chief Prajer** states that the vehicle was towed because it was partially obstructing the roadway, the downtown construction project will be starting soon-there will be an island at the end of Columbus that will force drivers to make a right onto 67, parking spots will be parallel to the road and the project is expected to last eight weeks.

**Commissioner Bitso**, as he remembers, when the approval of the building was being sought, the owner of the building argued that less than 40% of people over 55 have vehicles and that the parking that was there would be enough.

**Chairman Koskelowski** wanted to know if the landlord has handicapped spaces available for his tenants, states that the Strand parking lot is a municipal parking lot-there is one spot designated for the owner of Tony's Diner and four spots next to the building for Knights of Columbus and the Board will review the overnight parking situation.

**Bailey Cook**, retired police officer, states he was never notified of the insurance change, the co-pays have gone up, the new insurance has no dental, never received any documents and noticed there is a difference in coverage for hospital where Anthem was 100% and Cigna is only 66%, also 103 categories provided by Anthem-24 of those categories show a significant reduction in coverage by Cigna and the Better Business Bureau shows Cigna having 459 complaints over the last three years. He does not have the plan the contract says he should have.

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**4. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on July 18, 2018:**

William Paecht/David Bitso motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 4:0**

**5. Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Bitso** would like to see new recording devices for the meetings.

**Chairman Koskelowski** thanks the officers for showing up on Election Day.

**Commissioner McConologue** thanks the officers along with the Deputy Chief's for showing up at the senior picnic.

**6. Old Business:**

**Union Grievance:**

**Chairman Koskelowski** states basically this grievance is saying that the insurance change is effecting all the officers in the Seymour Police Department and it is not covering the percentages the old insurance did. The Town negotiates the contract and approves it-we are in charge of the contract, if this is in violation of the contract we are referring this back to the Board of Selectman. Personally feels he has enough proof in front of him, even if one item was changed, it's not equivalent.

**Union Attorney Bento**, representing the Seymour Police officers, stated the paperwork handed to the Board shows quite a few areas of concern-hospitals and mental health, for instance, are very different, officers are seeing more out of pocket expenses than with Blue Cross and this insurance is not substantially equivalent. On August 27<sup>th</sup> the parties will go in front of a mediator. Asks the commissioners to consider the grievance and see if contract was breached.

**Commissioner McConologue** states the Board of Selectman did the change therefore the grievance needs to be through them as they are the ones taking the action. Did the Union sit down with the Town prior to the change in insurance?

**Commissioner Paecht** would like to know what the town says about the insurance being violated and would like the town to show the Board whether this is right or wrong. Where do we stand on the first grievance-is it settled yet?

**Commissioner Bitso** would like to know if the Board of Selectman has responded at all.

**Union President Officer Oczkowski** states that an outside vendor made the comparison of the two insurance plans.

David Bitso/William Paecht motion if the Cigna Insurance health plan is in violation of the Seymour Police contract that the Board of Selectman should make the Seymour Police contract whole. **Motion: 3:1 (Lucy McConologue abstain)**

Union attorney would like a copy of the Board of Police Commissioners tape from the meeting held on June 20, 2018.

**6a) Patrol reports:** Board accepts the reports. Deputy Chief Prajer states the YMCA hosted a first responders appreciation day, currently down three supervisors, radar trailer deployed, had a meeting with the school superintendent as school is starting soon-two SRO's in the schools along with the security director at high school, etickets grant proposal will wait for the Federal fiscal year to start in October, major problems with opioid crisis-there were multiple uses of NARCAN in July, youth cases are up, Commander D'Antona retired and South Central back logged waiting for a test date.

**6b) Detective report:** Board accepts the report. Deputy Chief Rinaldi states there have been a rash of car thefts by juveniles, cars broken into over town, recruits are in their final weeks, CARES calendar shoot will take place Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, officers were at the Dunkin Donuts in Tri-Town collecting for Special Olympics and more NARCAN cans have come in.

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

**6d) Car Report:** Board accepts the report. Chief Satkowski's car was re-ended-the person at fault insurance will cover.

David Bitso/William Paecht motion to move item 7 to after public comment. **Motion: 4:0**

**8. Management Report:** Board accepts the report that was handed in by Chief Satkowski.

**9. Correspondence:**

- Letter from Commander D'Antona announcing his retirement. Lucy McConologue/David Bitso motion to accept his letter of retirement. **Motion: 4:0**
- Letter to Stop & Shop thanking them for their donations to Chief Metzler's retirement
- Thank you note from Chief Metzler to all the officers
- Letter from South Central thanking Sgt. Fappiano for participating in an Oral Board
- Thank you card from unidentified individual thanking the department
- Letter to DPW regarding the stop ahead signs
- Thank you letters to the officers who took the SRO exam

**10. Other Business:** None.

**11. Commissioner Comments:** None.

**12. Union Business:** None.

**13. Public Comment:** None

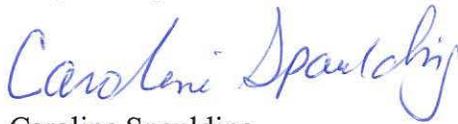
Lucy McConologue/David Bitso motion to place item 7 back on the agenda. **Motion: 4:0**

**7. New Business:** David Bitso/William Paecht motion to go into executive session at 8:21 p.m. for personnel. In attendance: The Board only. **Motion: 4:0**

David Bitso/William Paecht motion to come out of executive session at 8:34. No motions or votes taken. **Motion: 4:0**

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** William Paecht/David Bitso motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. **Motion: 4:0**

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline Spaulding  
Recording Secretary