



# SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

11 Franklin Street  
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-2891

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## REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 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, Officer Butler, Sgt. J. Martin, Officer Marra, Officer Adames, Officer Pinto, Det. Ditria, Det. Matusovich, Cmdr, Fappiano Inspector DeNigris and the public.

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

**Nancy Martin**, 38 Columbus Street, handed over pictures depicting the snow had not been removed from the sidewalk by Tony's Diner as the town ordinance requires business owners to do.

**Steve Kulas**, 12 Bank Street, on behalf of 165 Bank Street, concerning the marquis sign being hit by a delivery truck. Would like a no parking sign in front of marquis so it does not get hit.

**Chairman Koskelowki** will have the Chief and DPW look to see where a no parking sign can be placed and maybe paint the road no parking.

4. **Approval of minutes of regular meeting on January 16, 2019:**  
William Paecht/David Bitso motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 4:0**  
**Approval of minutes of special meeting on January 23, 2019:**  
William Paecht/David Bitso motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 4:0**
5. **Commissioners Comments:** Commissioner Paecht wanted to know why board member's received their packages late this month.

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**6. Old Business:**

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

**6b) Detective report:** Board accepts the report. Deputy Chief Rinaldi reports there was a robbery at the Dunkin Donuts on Roosevelt Drive.

**6c) K-9 reports:** Board accepts the reports. Officer Oczkowski reports that the two new portable radios are in and grant for two AED's for K-9 vehicles.

**6d) SRO reports:** No reports.

**6e) Car Report:** Board accepts the report. Chairman Koskelowski wanted to know why a newer vehicle needed a new tire and rim.

**7. New Business:**

**Parking tickets and parking stickers:**

Discussion took place regarding increasing parking ticket fines and parking sticker prices.

David Bitso/William Paecht motion to increase the price of each category on the parking tickets to go up \$ 5.00 except Handicapped Parking Zone which will increase to \$ 150.00 effective April 1, 2019. Also the parking sticker price will go from \$ 25.00 per year to \$ 30.00 per year. **Motion: 4:0**

**Union Grievance:**

**Chairman Koskelowski** quotes from the union contract that states whether you were hurt on the job or outside of the job you may be put on light duty. The officer was put on light duty but then taken off, the officer worked five weeks before he was told to not come in. Asked the Town Attorney to give him a legal opinion on who oversees the police department as, in my opinion, the charter clearly states the Board of Police Commissioners is in charge of all personnel. Chief's hands were tied and the Chief Elected Official and Town Attorney told the Chief verbally what to do. When he was Chief Elected Official he was never able to interfere with police personnel matters.

**Chief Satkowski** states that the First Selectman and the Town Attorney stated the officer should never been on light duty due to the circumstances, this was a conference call with no written opinion.

**Inspector DeNigris** states that the contract has a section stating that each employee must participate in the town modified light duty program (Article 10 page 9), the light duty program is a good reason for a person to come back to work, was told to use his own sick time after being told not to come to work after working five weeks, there was no overtime, I was not counted towards the shift and no other employees were on light duty.

**Commissioner Bitso** believes the whole paragraph in the contract was not read completely, bothers him the way this happened with no communication to the board.

**Commissioner Paecht** asks what happens when there is no light duty? Inspector DeNigris states then the officer would tell the doctor there is no light duty and cannot go back to work.

**Commissioner McConologue** would like to know what is Inspector DeNigris grieving? Inspector DeNigris is grieving the six days he was forced to use his own time.

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion to the Chairman to contact the First Selectman and Town Attorney to get written opinion who has over say of the Union Contract. **Motion: 4:0**

8. **Management Report:** Chief Satkowski reports the 2019-2020 budget was presented, current budget looks good, recruits in academy doing well, supernumerary sworn in and Officer Butler attending out of state K-9 conference

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion to allow three training days for out of state training for Officer Butler and pay \$ 295.00 for the training class. **Motion: 4:0**

**9. Correspondence:**

William Paecht/Lucy McConologue motion to accept Officer Dewald's letters of resignation. **Motion: 4:0**

William Paecht/David Bitso motion to accept Commander King's letter of retirement effective May 9, 2019. **Motion: 4:0**

**Chairman Koskelowski** thanks Commander King for his dedicated service to the town and the family for supporting the Seymour Police Department for many years.

**Officer Oczkowski** wants to know if exit interviews will still be done so the Board has the honest truth as to why people are leaving and maybe sit down one-on-one with the officer.

**Chairman Koskelowski** will have a committee of board members look at exit questionnaire and give this questionnaire to those officers who are leaving.

Letter from Karen Baker thanking the department for the help with her husband's service.

**10. Other Business:** Board is requesting a thirty day extension, does the Union accept-yes they do- Extend the conduct hearing from March 15, 2019 to April 15, 2019 as not a full board will be available in March.

**11. Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Bitso** would like to know how to help the residents downtown regarding snow removal on the sidewalks.

**Chairman Koskelowski** states that DPW should clean the sidewalks and bill the owner as the police do not have the power and any resident who feels the sidewalks are not clear of snow should contact the First Selectman's office.

**Chairman Koskelowski** wanted to know if there was a way to purchase a breathing apparatus for fire calls for officers to enter a building.

**Detective Matusovich** states that there are many OSHA regulations, a fit test and certifications that would need to be kept up.

**12. Union Business:**

**Union President Officer Oczkowski** would like to move forward with the posting of filling the next commander position. Chief Satkowski will post a signup sheet on Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for two weeks.

**Chairman Koskelowski** states that there is a legal ruling of three, we have to always have at least three left on the list-if not then we need to go out and test to get at least three, Chief to start setting up the testing process and advise us at the next meeting how many people signed up.

**13. Public Comment:** None.

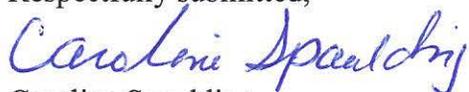
William Paecht/David Bitso motion to go into executive session at 8:00 p.m. for legal issue. In attendance: The Board, Chief Satkowski, Deputy Chief Rinaldi and Deputy Chief Prajer.

**Motion: 4:0**

William Paecht/David Bitso motion to come out of executive session at 8:20 p.m. No votes or motions taken. Motion: 4:0

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** William Paecht/David Bitso motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. **Motion: 4:0**

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline Spaulding  
Recording Secretary