

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.**

**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>

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Roll call of Commissioners:** Diaz, Lyons, Cruz, Williams and Farrow.

Also in attendance: Captain Manuel Cotto (Department Clerk), Attorney Linda Cronin and Attorney Linda Cronin.

**1. Call to order – Roll Call of Commissioners:**

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

**2. Reports:**

**a. Chief of Police:**

Chief Porter presented to the Board and stated the Department has lost several people due to retirement. He has several contingency plans that will be used if the manpower continues to shrink but right now the Department is maintaining with what we have. The manpower situation is not significant to Bridgeport but rather an issue occurring in most departments.

The Department is doing a great job with the Summer Special Events and has stepped up with the crowds. There have been no significant incidents to report.

The Chief reported he currently has 23 recruits in the academy actively training. The department is in the process of actively recruiting and is looking for qualified candidates. The academy is having informational sessions that seem to be working to explain the process and about law enforcement.

Regarding the crime stats the Department seems to be approximately 8% above last year's stats. However, shootings are down 35% and most of the Homicides are either solved or actively being worked on.

The Department is up to date with discipline and the Chief anticipated giving out Department Awards on National Night Out, August 1, 2023.

**b. Union:**

None

**c. Internal Affairs Quarterly Report:**

None

**d. Clerk's report on the status of pending matters:**

None

**3. New Business:**

- a. On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board unanimously voted to combine and approve all items in section 3.

**4. Old Business:**

- b. On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Farrow, the Board unanimously voted to table the item and wait for Commission Roach, who was working on this item.

**6. Correspondence:**

- a. None

**7. Letters of Appreciation:**

- a. A commendation email was read regarding Officer Victor Rrapi.

**8. Widow's Pension:**

- a. See below

**9. City Engineer's Office:**

**a. A request of the City Engineer's Office to approve the following traffic request:**

- i. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

**b. A request of the City Engineer's Office not to approve the following traffic requests:**

- i. On a motion by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Lyons, the Board voted unanimously to uphold the decision by the traffic engineer.
- ii. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Cruz, the Board voted unanimously to uphold the decision by the traffic engineer.

**Adjournment 1855:**

On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Diaz, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

**THE BOARD RECONVENES AS THE TRUSTEE OF THE POLICE RELIEF FUND**  
**“Plan-A”**

Roll call of Commissioners: Diaz, Lyons, Cruz, Williams and Farrow.

1. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Diaz, the Board voted unanimously to approve the widow disability pension request.

**Adjournment:**

**On a motion by Commissioner Diaz and seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:56 PM.**

**THE BOARD RECONVENES AS THE TRUSTEE OF THE POLICE RELIEF FUND**  
**“Plan-B”**

Roll call of Commissioners: Diaz, Lyons, Cruz, Williams and Farrow.

1. On a motion by Commissioner Lyons and seconded by Commissioner Diaz, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Plan B pension request.

**Adjournment:**

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

**MC/**