

Wilton Police Commission



240 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897
Tel: (203) 834-6260
Fax: (203) 834 6258

**POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
16 OCTOBER 2019**

**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND APPROVAL AT
A FUTURE MEETING OF THE POLICE COMMISSION**

CTO

Chairman Don Sauvigne called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters, Commissioner Matt Mason (by phone), Chief John Lynch, Town counsel Christopher Hodgson, Esq. and Director of HR, Labor Relations and Administrative Services for the Town of Wilton Sarah Taffel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

PRE-DISCIPLINARY HEARING OF OFFICER STEVEN ZAWACKI

The Commissioners noted that on October 10, 2019 a written agreement was executed by AFSCME Local 1429, Officer Zawacki and the Town of Wilton whereby Officer Zawacki waived a Loudermill hearing with respect to Internal Affairs Investigation #19-10 in the event that he did not timely tender his resignation as contemplated in said written agreement. The Commission further noted that notwithstanding said waiver the Commission extended to Officer Zawacki and the union a renewed opportunity to a Loudermill hearing to be held at this date and time, and the union representative had stated that neither Officer Zawacki nor a union representative would attend this meeting.

Chief Lynch referred the Commissioners to Internal Affairs Investigation #19-10, and to the Notice of Disposition of Internal Affairs Investigation #19-10 dated October 2, 2019 issued by Chief Lynch. The Commissioners each acknowledged that they had fully reviewed this documentation and asked Chief Lynch for his recommendation as to the disciplinary action to be taken. Chief Lynch recommended that Officer Zawacki's employment with the Town of Wilton be terminated on the basis of the findings in the investigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:04 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Sauvigne and seconded by Commissioner Mason to go into Executive Session for purposes of deliberation on the pre-disciplinary hearing and possible disciplinary action concerning Officer Steven Zawacki. Motion passed 3-0. The Commission invited Mr. Hodgson and Ms. Taffel to participate in the Executive Session; Chief Lynch was excused from, and did not participate in, the Executive Session.

At 7:20 p.m. the Commission came out of Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session. Chief Lynch thereafter returned to the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF TAKING DISCIPLINARY ACTION CONCERNING OFFICER STEVEN ZAWACKI

Commissioner Waters made a motion that, based upon the report prepared in Internal Affairs Investigation #19-10 and the Notice of Disposition of Internal Affairs Investigation #19-10 dated October 2, 2019, the Commission adopt the conclusions of Chief Lynch with respect to charges #1 through #5, inclusive, set forth in the Notice of Disposition, and that in light of said conclusions and the recent disciplinary history of Officer Zawacki reflected in Internal Affairs Investigation #18-17, Officer Zawacki's employment by the Town of Wilton be terminated effective immediately, with a written decision in conformity with this motion to follow. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mason and passed 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:23 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Sauvigne seconded by Commissioner Waters and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary