



**Police Commission Meeting  
December 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m.  
Via Videoconference**

**Present:** Commissioner Neil Bettez, Commissioner Dan Torres, Commissioner David Brownstein, Chief Rob Lucchesi. **Absent:** Commissioner Alex Baer, Commissioner Julie Seyfert-Lillis.

At 6:30 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Agenda:** A motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to adopt the agenda as written. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 6:32 p.m. Commissioner Baer and Commissioner Seyfert-Lillis arrived.

**Public Input:**

- Edgar Rodriguez asked if there will be a liaison from the Town Board to the new Police Commission and inquired about the progress in appointing members.
- Tom Jelliffe acknowledged the Chief's efforts to increase transparency, commented on data posted to the website.

**Executive Session:**

At 6:42 p.m. the Board went into executive session with the Chief.

At 6:56 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to come out of executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Monthly Report-November 2021:**

Commendations (3):

1. A Departmental compliment was received from the New Paltz Rotary thanking the PD for helping make the Halloween Parade safe and successful.
2. A letter was received thanking Officer Claud for her kindness during a false alarm call.
3. A Departmental compliment was received from a woman thanking the PD for its compassion and understanding while she went through a difficult time with her son.

Defensive Actions (2):

1. No charges filed
2. Harassment 2<sup>nd</sup>, Resisting Arrest, Trespassing

**Referral to Town Board-Promotion:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to refer to the Town Board the approval of the promotion of Amanda Snyder to full-time police officer, effective January 1, 2022, at the salary and step outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Referral to Town Board-Hiring:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to refer to the Town Board the hiring of John Miller as full-time police officer effective January 1, 2022, at the salary and step outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Referral to Town Board-Resignation:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to refer to the Town Board the acceptance of resignation from Brianne Quigley. Seconded by Commissioner Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Referral to Town Board-Resignation:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to refer to the Town Board the acceptance of resignation from Ryan Bulson. Seconded by Commissioner Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Review NYS AG's Office memo regarding Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigation Office and revisions to policy 25.1 Internal Affairs to comply with NYS Executive Law 75:**

This is an advisement that the PD has to do. It was created to establish a duty on law enforcement agencies and their employees. This requires the head of the agencies refer to LEMIO instances in which the covered agencies have received at least 5 complaints for 5 or more individuals related to at least 5 separate incidents involving a certain officer or employee within 2 years. NPPD has revised a section of its policy.

**UC DA Discovery Grant Reimbursement:**

The UC DA's Office received a grant to try to reimburse Police Agencies for discovery expenditures that occurred between April 2020 and March 2021. The NPPD applied for about \$1,500 worth of computer related materials and hardware; and about \$4,400 in personnel costs.

**Review recommendation of the NPPRRC: All new police officers who have not successfully completed Police Academy should be enrolled in a program akin to the Dutchess County Law Enforcement Academy, which subscribes to an updated training program that is diversified with culturally responsive training with an inclusive & holistic approach for modern day law enforcement practices. Dutchess County Training for law enforcement officers is collaboratively working in the context and guidance of President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing (dated May 2015) as are other departments around the state in response to Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order No. 203. Unlike current practices of engagements, the 21st century police consists of a robust training program that requires prospective police officers to identify, examine and address their own internalized implicit and explicit biases. The 21st century policing promotes and requires effective police engagements with the community; which will allow for positive relationships to develop. Police officers will learn how to effectively listen and communicate with all community members and learn to demonstrate empathy. Policing in the 21st century will build community trust, legitimacy and transparency and accountability. We believe this training model will foster the professional development of our Ideal Officer:**

Chief Lucchesi indicated that he is not opposed to this depending on the situation, however, he does not want to abandon the UC Police Academy. The NYS Dept of Criminal Justice sets the training curriculums. There are differences in the 2 academies, for example, DC is a full-time academy for sworn officers only. Where UC has 2 phases that works in conjunction with UC Community College. While the DC Academy is worthwhile, there are limitations. Diana Armstead indicated that UC is

outdated, not progressive and military-like.

**Review recommendation of the NPPRRC: All police personnel and New Paltz Justices receive Motivational Interviewing training; preferably under the instruction of the Varalli Group:**

Chief Lucchesi is not opposed to this, however he feels there needs to be more research done.

At 7:44 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Bettez to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Rosenkranse  
Town Clerk

Draft