

SPECIAL SESSION
JUNE 28, 2023
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT
VIDEOCONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE CALL VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Commissioners Darrell Brooks; Michael Lawlor; Tracey Meares; Evelise Ribeiro; and Donald Walker

Chief Karl Jacobson: Department of Police Service
Assistant Chief Manmeet Bhagtana: Department of Police Service
Assistant Chief David Zannelli: Department of Police Service
Lieutenant Dana Smith: Department of Police Service
Lieutenant J. Wetted: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Jesse Agosto: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Yelena Borisova: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Cherelle Carr: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Paul Finch: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Rose Melendez: Department of Police Service
Sergeant Besty Segui: Department of Police Service
Officer Oscar Diaz: Department of Police Service
Asia Johnson-Clark: Administrative Assistant

Wendella Ault-Batthey, Esquire: Director of Labor Relations
Floyd Dugas, Esquire: Counsel for the Department
Michelle Duprey, Esquire: Deputy Corporation Counsel
Jeffrey Ment, Esquire: Counsel for the Elm City Local
Regina Rush-Kittle: Chief Administrative Officer
Florencio Cotto: President of Elm City Local
Jonathan Lambe: Vice-President of Elm City Local
Christina Altieri
Thomas Breen: New Haven Independent
Ramona Davis
Dave Collins
Nancy Jackson-Johnson
Jean Jenkins: CRB
Jay Kenney
Rob Lautensack
Eddy Martinez
Gaby Molina: WTC
Hector Molina
NBC Connecticut
WTNH News8

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1 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Let me just scan the room
2 and make sure. Okay. Okay. Good evening, everyone.
3 it is now six o'clock p.m. And I will call the
4 Special Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners
5 to order. Just for the record, in attendance this
6 evening is myself, Commissioner Ribeiro. We have
7 Commissioner Tracey Meares, Commissioner Donald
8 Walker, Commissioner Darrell Brooks, Commissioner
9 Michael Lawlor. And Commissioner Miranda, Isaias
10 Miranda will not be joining us this evening.

11 So before we get to the matter of Personnel
12 Matter, I just wanted to know from the Department
13 side who is here and who will be testifying?

14 ATTY. DUGAS: Good evening, Commissioner.
15 Attorney Floyd Dugas on behalf of Department
16 Administration. We will have Sergeant Rose Melendez
17 testifying. We'll have Chief Jacobson. And we will
18 also have Chief Bhagtana assisting with some very
19 brief video.

20 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. And for Sergeant
21 Segui and union, who do we have this evening?

22 ATTY. MENT: Good evening. You have me, Jeff
23 Ment.

24 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. Will you be having
25 anyone testify?

1 ATTY. MENT: No, ma'am. Preliminarily, before
2 you start, I'd like to thank all of you for the delay
3 based solely on my personal health problem that
4 inconvenienced all of you. And for that I am sorry
5 for the inconvenience.

6 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: We hope -- we - we are
7 just glad that -- that you are well. That's the most
8 important thing, but thank you for that.

9 ATTY. MENT: Thank you, ma'am.

10 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. As I call the
11 meeting to order, I would ask Attorney Ment, does
12 your client, Sergeant Segui, want this matter to be
13 heard in open or closed session?

14 ATTY. MENT: Ma'am, closed session, please.

15 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. With that being
16 said, Commissioners, what is your pleasure?

17 COMMISSIONER WALKER: I'll make a motion that we
18 go into executive session to discuss the Chief's
19 recommendation.

20 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Second, Madam Chair.

21 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. We have a motion
22 to go into executive session for the -- as I believe
23 I heard it, consideration on the recommendation from
24 Chief Karl Jacobson to terminate Sergeant Besty
25 Segui, Internal Affairs Investigation 22I-046. Is

1 that correct, Commissioner Walker?

2 COMMISSIONER WALKER: That is correct, ma'am.

3 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. So we have a
4 motion and a second. It was moved by Commissioner
5 Walker. And who placed the second?

6 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Commissioner Brooks.

7 COMMISSIONER MEARES: Brooks.

8 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Thank you, sir. You've
9 heard the motion to go into Executive Session to hear
10 the personnel matter. Any discussion? Okay. Seeing
11 none, all those in favor signify by saying, aye.

12 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Opposed? Abstentions?
14 Motion carry. And I'm going to invite into Executive
15 Session Attorney Dugas, Chief Jacobson, Chief
16 Bhagtana. I don't see Chief Ettienne. But he if he
17 is here, he's invited, and also Chief Zannelli,
18 Sergeant Melendez. We'll also invite Lieutenant
19 Smith, Attorney Duprey, President Cotto, Attorney
20 Ment, Sergeant Segui.

21 Who else am I missing? Sorry.

22 PRESIDENT COTTO: Vice President Jonathan Lambe
23 please.

24 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Yes, thank you. Vice
25 President Johnathan Lambe, CAO Rush-Kittle.

1 CHIEF JACOBSON: And I believe the Labor
2 director is on too, Wendella.

3 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. I'll invite the
4 Labor attorney in also. Is there anyone else? Okay.
5 We can start to go into the room, Asia, please.
6 Okay. Just bear with us. There's a lot of people
7 that will need to be moved to another room. So bear
8 with us please.

9 **(Whereupon, the Board went into Executive Session at 6:04**

10 **p.m.)**

11 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. Commissioners, I
12 entertain a motion to come out of Executive Session.

13 COMMISSIONER MEARES: I move that we come out of
14 Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters.

15 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Second.

16 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. It's been moved by
17 Commissioner Meares and seconded by Commissioner
18 Walker, I think I heard him first, to come out of
19 Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. Any discussion? All
20 those in favor please signify by saying, aye.

21 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Aye.

22 COMMISSIONER MEARES: Aye.

23 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Opposed? Abstentions?
24 Motion carry.

25 **(Whereupon, the Board exited Executive Session at 7:32 p.m.)**

1 recommendation from Chief Karl Jacobson to terminate
2 Sergeant Betsy Segui, Internal Affairs Investigation
3 22I-046. Commissioners, what is your pleasure?

4 COMMISSIONER WALKER: I make a motion that we
5 act on the Chief's recommendation to terminate
6 Sergeant Betsy Segui.

7 COMMISSIONER MEARES: Second.

8 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Second.

9 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. We have a motion
10 to terminate based on the recommendation made by
11 Commissioner Walker and a second by Commissioner
12 Meares. Any discussion? Okay. We will take a voice
13 vote. Commissioner Walker?

14 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Commissioner Meares?

16 COMMISSIONER MEARES: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Commissioner Brooks?

18 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Commissioner Lawlor?

20 COMMISSIONER LAWLOR: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: And I am a yes. The
22 recommendation to terminate Officer Besty Segui has
23 passed.

24 Commissioners, I thank you for your time this
25 evening and over the last three hearings. I also

1 want to thank the staff and also the union and the
2 union representatives.

3 But I also do want to make a comment that I hope
4 that these decisions over the last month and a half
5 and tonight, with this being concluded, we can now
6 start to heal as a police department and as a
7 community. And we just wanted to note that the
8 behavior of this -- these officers are not indicative
9 of what the New Haven Police Department is about.
10 And the treatment of Mr. Cox was appalling and it's
11 not the way that we would want our officers to treat
12 any of our citizen in the -- in the City of New
13 Haven. And this behavior will not be tolerated in
14 this Department.

15 So we offer our apology to Mr. Cox and to his
16 family. And we hope that he will continue to heal.
17 And we pray for his healing.

18 So thank you everyone for coming this evening.
19 Commissioners, does anyone else have any comments
20 before we end? Thank you, everyone. Have a great
21 evening.

22 ATTY. DUGAS: Thank you, Commissioners.

23 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Oh, sorry.

25 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Oh.

1 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Before we do, we need a
2 motion to adjourn.

3 COMMISSIONER WALKER: I'll make motion we
4 adjourn.

5 COMMISSIONER MEARES: Second.

6 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Okay. We have a motion
7 made by Commissioner Walker and a second by
8 Commissioner Meares, any discussion? All those in
9 favor please signify by saying, aye.

10 COMMISSIONER LAWLOR: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Aye.

13 COMMISSIONER RIBEIRO: Those opposed?
14 Abstentions? Moton carry. Thank you, everyone. And
15 have a great evening.

16 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Have a goodnight.

17 COMMISSIONER WALKER: Goodnight, everyone.

18 CHIEF JACOBSON: Goodnight, everyone. Thank
19 you.

20 COMMISSIONER RIBERIO: Goodnight.

21 **(Whereupon, the Board adjourned at 7:36 p.m.)**

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I hereby certify the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription of the audio recording of the above-referenced case, heard at the New Haven Police Department, in New Haven, before the New Haven Board of Police Commissioners, on the 28th day of June, 2023 via Zoom videoconference and conference call.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2023 in New Haven, Connecticut.



Sotonye Otunba-Payne

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