



**WATERTOWN POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
61 ECHO LAKE ROAD
WATERTOWN, CT
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026 - 7:00 P.M.**

1. Convene Regular Meeting
Vice Chair David Jannetty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call
PRESENT: David Jannetty, V. Chairman
Carmine Verno, Secretary
Robert McCarthy
Richard Rossi

ABSENT: Richard Antonetti

ALTERNATES
PRESENT: John Gavallas
Brian Mays

ALTERNATES
ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Joshua Bernegger, Police Chief
Renee Dominguez, Deputy Chief

3. Public Participation – none.

4. Minutes Approval
a. Regular Meeting – November 12, 2025
Motion: Richard Rossi seconded by Robert McCarthy to accept meeting minutes of November 12, 2025.

Discussion:

Motion passes

5. Correspondence – none.

6. New Business – none.

7. Old Business
 - a. Update regarding the request for Connecticut DOT to evaluate the passing zone located in the vicinity of 251 Litchfield Road – no further update.
8. Chairman’s Report: none.
9. Chief’s Report
 - a. December, 2025– Monthly Department Activity Report
Joshua Bernegger reported:
 - 1) The Watertown Police Department has one sworn vacancy, due to Officer Gakidis’ resignation. An entry level candidate will be sworn in by the Town Clerk on Friday, January 23rd at 0900 hrs at the police department. She will be attending the New Haven Police Academy, which starts on Monday, January 26th. The academy lasts approximately 6 months.
 - 2) A conditional offer has been given to a second entry level police officer applicant, intended to fill the upcoming retirement of Sgt. Jay DeMarest. A background investigation is underway.
 - 3) Two (2) current police officers are on light duty assignment due to off-duty injuries.
 - 4) A second candidate for the vacant position of communications supervisor has been given a conditional offer of employment, and a background investigation is underway.
 - 5) The Town is in discussions with the White-Collar Union to make the Assistant Animal Control Officer a full-time position, following four (4) unsuccessful attempts to fill the vacancy.
 - 6) The Town of Watertown Radio Communications Upgrade Project continues as scheduled. Construction at the new tower sites on Judd Farm Road and Black Rock Dam has been completed. The Dispatch radio consoles are being upgraded this month, with the first of three (3) consoles being installed on 1/14/26. Once all dispatcher are trained on the new consoles, the remaining two consoles will be upgraded.
 - 7) An adult and youth citizens police academy were being planned for February/March 2026. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest in the adult academy and it has been canceled. The youth academy will likely continue.
 - 8) The Department has received the new Animal Control van. It is currently being outfitted with a radio and mobile data terminal, as well as receiving graphics. It should be in service in the coming weeks.
10. Adjournment
Motion: Brian Mays seconded by Robert McCarthy to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

David Jannetty
Vice Chair