

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2025 6:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESENT:

Mayor Jeff Caggiano, Chairperson
Commissioner Rory Ghio
Commissioner Dean Kilbourne
Commissioner Paul Lemieux
Commissioner Terry Lewis
Commissioner Gloria Sapp Smith
Council Member Sue Tyler

ABSENT:

Jon Mace, Board of Finance Liaison

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Caggiano called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Officer Seth Petzing received the Department Silver Star and Officer of the Month for January 2025.
Ms. Alyson Maynard received a Letter of Appreciation.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tom Lavigne, 11 Hampton Court - is against red light cameras in Bristol.
Tony Jalbert, 85 Mohawk Road – came before the Board to explain his Alarm Waiver Request.
Rob Cochran, 32 Ridge Road – thanked the department for being present in this neighborhood.
Mary Ann Sirois, 362 Shrub Road – would like to see red light cameras in Bristol.
Melanie McKinley, 91 Maxine Road – is against red light cameras in Bristol.

ALARM APPEALS

Commissioner Lemieux motioned to MOVE ALARMS APPEALS 10. III UP ON THE AGENDA,
Seconded by Council Member Tyler.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Commissioner Kilbourne moved TO WAIVE \$1,440 IN LATE FEES FOR LIBERTY BAPTIST
CHURCH LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$720 TO BE PAID, Seconded by Commissioner Ghio.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Commissioner Kilbourne moved to DENY THE APPEAL REQUEST FROM POPEYE'S, Seconded by
Council Member Tyler.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Tyler motioned to MOVE OLD BUSINESS 9B UP ON THE AGENDA, Seconded by
Commissioner Lemieux.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Chief Morello

i. Red Light Cameras

A discussion was held about moving forward with installing red light traffic enforcement cameras. Chief Morello stated that the cameras started as an exploratory idea and that we as a City, are looking into the viability and whether or not it's right for our community. It was forwarded to the Ordinance Committee to put some language together for review. Right now, the draft language mirrors the state law as it reads and Chief Morello thinks this is what we will find throughout all other municipalities that are implementing cameras. Chief Morello recommends allowing him to look into other towns' findings after the cameras have been implemented.

Commissioner Ghio made a motion NOT TO HAVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS IN THE CITY OF BRISTOL, Seconded by Commissioner Sapp Smith.

A discussion was held. Mayor Caggiano explained that there are several steps we have to go through with the city to get this done. There was no public hearing on the ordinance language itself so, if it goes well in other towns and everyone decides to move forward with this 6 months or a year from now, we would have to send it back to the Ordinance Committee to amend the language we would want. They would then have to have a public hearing and we would have to start interviewing vendors and possibly have an additional public hearing. Then, it would have to be sent back to the State to have them approve whichever locations we choose. Mayor Caggiano stated it is a long process which is why he suggests to table it indefinitely.

Commissioner Lemieux stated that there are too many unanswered questions about how all of this is going to work. He mentioned, "A prime example of my history being a police officer is the camera is not going to pick up criminal activity."

VOTE: PASSED

Vote – 5 yes
1 no

Commissioner Lemieux moved to START A TRAFFIC SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF COUNCIL MEMBER SUE TYLER, COMMISSIONER RORY GHIO, FORMER COUNCILMAN TOM LAVIGNE, FORMER MAYOR JOHN LEONE ALONG WITH A MEMBER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF MORELLO'S CHOICE, TO ACT AS A LIASON TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL BE AS NEEDED, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

Commissioner Lemieux explained that the sub-committee will review data and research methods for improving traffic safety in Bristol. They will work in collaboration with the Bristol Police Department to identify high crash and violation areas. This sub-committee will make recommendations on how to reduce these to make Bristol's roads safer and report back to the entire Commission.

Police Commissioners

No old business.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Ghio moved to APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 21, 2025 REGULAR POLICE BOARD MEETING, Seconded by Council Member Tyler.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

5. REPORTS OF ACCOUNTS YEAR TO DATE

Commissioner Lemieux moved to APPROVE THE REPORT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR TO DATE AND PLACE ON FILE, Seconded by Commissioner Sapp Smith.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

6. APPROVAL OF VARIOUS MONTHLY REPORTS

Commissioner Kilbourne moved to APPROVE THE MONTHLY REPORTS AND PLACE ON FILE, Seconded by Commissioner Lewis.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Caggiano read a letter from Fire Chief Hart. (copy attached)

8. AWARDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

For information purposes only.

9. OLD BUSINESS – moved under Alarm Appeals

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Chief Morello

i. Board of Finance Request

Commissioner Kilbourne moved to APPROVE THE REQUEST TO APPROPRIATE \$42,500 TO COVER EXPENSE ACCOUNTS AND FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE, Seconded by Commissioner Sapp Smith.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

ii. Chief's Report

Council Member Tyler moved to PLACE THE CHIEF'S REPORT ON FILE, Seconded by Commissioner Sapp Smith.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

iii. Alarm Appeals – moved under Public Participation

10.2 Police Commissioners

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ghio moved to ADJOURN, Seconded by Commissioner Sapp Smith.

VOTE: UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

The regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners called for the 18th day of February 2025 was
HEREBY ADJOURNED AT 6:55 p.m.

Lisa Ziogas
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

Mark Morello

From: Richard Hart
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:26 PM
To: Mark Morello; Jeffrey Caggiano
Cc: Mark Kichar
Subject: Ofc Kichar

Mayor Caggiano and Chief Morello,

I'd like to take a moment and notify you both of the exemplary and compassionate work the officers of the BPD do. Today around 1250 a gentleman, of 98 years of age, who was extremely cold was escorted into Fire Headquarters by Ofc. Kichar. The gentleman had parked his car in the parking lot on the north side of 225 N. Main thinking that was City Hall. He then proceeded to walk to City Hall and on his return, he was spotted by Ofc. Kichar struggling on the sidewalk due to ice. Ofc. Kichar brought him into Headquarters to warm up and then Ofc. Kichar went to retrieve the gentleman's vehicle and brought it to Headquarters for the gentleman.

It is the small acts such as this that show the true character, compassion and empathy of your officers. Unfortunately, this will go unnoticed by the public, nor will it receive any headlines, but I felt compelled to let you both know of Ofc. Kichar's action, and how proud I am to work in a City with such caring public servants.

Respectfully,
Chief Hart

Richard Hart MS, EFO
Fire Chief
Bristol Fire Department
Cell: 860.406.1691
Office: 860.584.7964



