

**Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services
Commission Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2024; 5:00 PM**

YFS Commission Meeting Playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbEt7-HiGQ8lg0PvMBKyiD3YRDhLnur-W>

“To collaboratively support and advocate for positive relationships in an inclusive community.”

I. Roll Call	<p>Attendant Members: Mike Rafferty, Chair; Michael Spera, Chief of Police; Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation; David Plotkin, At-Large Member; Mary Ann Iadarola, Public Health Nursing Board Representative; Lisa Castro, Old Saybrook Middle School Counselor; Jeff Harder, Community At-Large Member Absent Members Excused: Jonathan Paradis, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation</p> <p>Attendant Student Representative(s): C. Castro Absent Student Representative(s): B. Cassella, W. Percival</p> <p>Attendant Staff: Heather McNeil, Executive Director</p>	
II. Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 5:00pm by M. Rafferty Pledge of Allegiance	
III. Comments from the Public	Member of Public: Brittany Eckert No Comments	
IV. Approval of Minutes	Motion made by D. Plotkin to approve the minutes of Tuesday; December 5, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded L. Castro and approved. Abstain: M. Spera	
V. Chairman's Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Happy December Holidays. Healthy & Happy 2024! 	
VI. Director's Report for 1/02/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>H. McNeil – Budget for approval</u> -S. Consoli (Social Services Coordinator) present FY25 SS budget \$116,555 (up 1% over FY24 led by increases in salary and benefits – standard yearly increases) FT hours and PT Assistant hours have remained the same. -Chief Spera motion to approve budget as presented by S. Consoli, M. Iadarola 2nd. All approved. -Quiana Peralta filling in temporarily as assistant. Previously worked/interned at OSYFS. Bi-lingual, very knowledgeable & experienced. -YFS budget: FY25 \$625,375 (up 1.41% over FY24) increase in salary and benefits- PT coordinator in place. -Chief Spera motion to approve budget as presented by H. McNeil, M. Iadarola 2nd. All approved. -Chief Spera: how much the ARPA funding is to keep the 5 additional hrs. for the positions currently using ARPA? -Chief Spera: Review programs again at YFS, P&R, Acton Library, not duplication of programs & services – to streamline YFS staff to report to another agency. Ongoing, especially as registration for after school programming has gone down -needs assessment to see what community needs, partner with P&R and Acton Library. -YFS also does billing (i.e. outside billing service) – not done at town hall. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Holiday Giving Stats</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No reported issues. Thank you to the Chief, his staff, YFS staff. -167 children, 64-67 families (decrease of approx. 30 families) – some children aged out, some moved away, or other various reasons. -Thank you to the schools for getting forms to us. -Scheduled 2 evenings with a bilingual assistant to help fill out the forms. -Others helped from surplus of OS Holiday Giving – families of DCF, ACES. -Still interested in adding a Bi-lingual social worker to YFS (ongoing since ARPA funding) • <u>Proposed Meeting Schedule 2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Months commission not meeting, would like people working on our bylaws. - Plan not to meet Feb, April, July, August - Chief Spera motion to approve schedule, L. Castro 2nd. All approved. • <u>Other</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Congrats to C. Castro on Fairfield Univ. (Business Mgmt) & running scholarship. - Commend M. Iadarola on consistently reporting back to PHNB about YFS. 	
VII. Old Business	Nothing to report.	
VIII. New Business	Nothing to report.	
IX. Other Business	Nothing to report.	
X. Adjournment	Motion to adjourn M. Spera, motion seconded by D. Plotkin Meeting adjourned at 5:30PM.	

Submitted by,
Angela Gaidry, Recording Clerk