



THOMAS H. KIELY
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT
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POLICE COMMISSION

JACK TESTANI, CHAIRMAN
ANNA HENRY, VICE CHAIRMAN
ROGER MCGOVERN, COMMISSIONER
LINO COSTANTINI, COMMISSIONER
PHILIP DIGENNARO, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Long Hill Conference Room – Trumbull Town Hall
Tuesday, December 11, 2012

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Anna Henry
Roger McGovern
Philip DiGennaro
Albert Zamar

Also Present: Chief Thomas H. Kiely
Deputy Chief Michael Harry
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Robert Ferrigno, Parks Commission Chairman
Ken Martin, Park Commission
Lt. Savarese
Detective Testi
Officer Yocher

Absent: Lino Costantini

Public Comments

Opened at 7:01 pm.

There being no public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comments at 7:02 pm.

Approval of November 13, 2012 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2012 as presented. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION, COMMISSIONER ZAMARY.

Correspondence

- Letter from Attorney George Lawler regarding Midtown Auto – Towing Contract

Chairman Testani thanked Commissioner Henry for locating the first revision of the Towing Policy. There is another newer revision of the Towing Policy per Deputy Chief Byrnes. Chairman Testani indicated that the Commission needs to acknowledge Attorney Lawler's letter was received. Chairman Testani would like to table this matter for the January 8, 2013 Police Commission meeting and wait to receive the final revised Towing Policy from Attorney Walsh. Chairman Testani recalls that the Towing Policy was approved. Commissioner Henry and Chief Kiely confirmed that the Towing Policy was approved by the Commission in June 2011.

Motion made to table the letter from Attorney George Lawler regarding the Towing Policy for the January 8, 2013 Police Commission meeting. MOTION made (Chairman Testani), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Letter from Jeff Topolski regarding Stonehouse Road

Mr. Topolski presented a letter along with a petition to Chief Kiely concerning speeding vehicles on Stonehouse Road. Chief Kiely suggested that the Traffic Division conduct a study on Stonehouse Road. The letter was provided to Lt. Savarese for the Traffic Division to conduct a study and report back to the Police Commission at the January 8, 2013 meeting.

- Installation of Barrier Gate of Cemetery Drive leading to Nothnagle Park

Robert Ferrigno, 35 Briarwoods Terrace, Chairman of Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission addressed the Board regarding installation of Barrier Gate on Cemetery Drive leading to Nothnagle Park. Mr. Ferrigno indicated that they received a legal opinion from Town Attorney Mario Coppola which confirms that the Town has legal authority to erect a small gate across Cemetery Drive in order to close-off vehicular traffic at night by the proposed gate. The decision to erect the gate requires approval by the Trumbull Police Commission which is the Town's Traffic Authority. Mr. Ferrigno indicated that the Nichols Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, neighbors, Cemetery and the Legal authority are in unanimous agreement to request the installation of the barrier gate on Cemetery Drive leading to Nothnagle Park. Chairman Testani indicated that a letter was received by Lt. Savarese indicating that Officer Thompson checked the area of the proposed barrier gate and from a traffic standpoint they do not see a problem with the installation of the barrier gate as long as it is properly identifiable, especially at night for motorist safety.

Mr. Ken Martin of 1676 Huntington Turnpike, Trumbull was also present and indicated that the request of the installation of the barrier gate has been ongoing for the past 2 years. There have been some issues in the past of vandalism in the park and feels that the park is very substantial

to the Town and needs to be protected. Mr. Martin confirmed that they have the support of the Nichols Fire Department along with the Cemetery Association to install the gate and requests that the Police Commission approve the installation of the barrier gate.

Motion made to approve the installation of a barrier gate on Cemetery Drive leading to Nothnagle Park. MOTION made (Commissioner Zamaro), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Ferrigno also informed the Police Commission that they will provide keys for the gate to the Police Department, Fire Department, Cemetery Association and the Park Department.

Chairman Testani asked if the department had a copy of the letter from Attorney Coppola of his legal opinion. Mr. Ferrigno indicated he would provide a copy of the letter to Chief Kiely.

- Approval of Reservoir Avenue for assisted living project

Chief Kiely indicated that on Friday the Police Department received the plans for the Reservoir Avenue project, everything looks good with the project however Planning and Zoning requested a crosswalk. The Traffic Engineer for the project will need to submit a formal plan for the crosswalk. Once that is received the Police Commission will need to vote on the installation of the crosswalk installation. Lt. Savarese reported that the plans that were received contained the traffic impact study. In November the plan went to Planning and Zoning and they indicated that the company shall apply for a crosswalk.

Chairman Testani asked for clarification of what is being voted on. Chief Kiely responded that the Commission needs to approve the site plan for traffic without the approval of the sidewalk installation, until the additional information is submitted.

Motion made to approve traffic report as presented for Reservoir Avenue with a determination on the crosswalk to be made when that plan is submitted. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner DiGennaro). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chief Kiely's Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commission that there were approximately 1,500 calls for the month of November, including 230 Burglar Alarms, 3 drug violation cases and 186 medical calls.

The most significant crime for the month was an armed robbery at Gene's Automotive on the northern end of Main Street which the Detective Bureau is still working on. Deputy Chief Harry informed the Commission that there are 2 arrest warrants waiting to be signed off at court for the two (2) suspects.

There have been 50 criminal arrests for the month of November; the detailed report was provided to the board. There was one organized retail theft case which was a significant shoplifting case involving return fraud. The suspects are New York residents who had almost \$5,000 worth of merchandise that was recovered between the shoplifting and return scam.

Traffic

Lt. Savarese indicated that for the month of November three (3) traffic complaints were received: 1) Speeding vehicles on Williams Road; 2) Traffic Review at the intersection of St. Joseph's High School and Rte. 108; and 3) Rte. 111 Rails to Trails Crossing.

Chief Kiely indicated that they met with Mr. Benjamin to discuss his complaint of the Rte. 111 crossing. Chief Kiely indicated that this issue needs to be addressed and suggested a traffic engineer be hired to assist with a solution of the crosswalk because this is beyond their capability. Chief Kiely's solution would be to have a bridge or tunnel built, but he's not sure about the cost. Chairman Testani asked if the Chief would coordinate with new Chief of Staff. Chief Kiely responded that he was working on this with Dan Nelson and is sure Elaine Wang will continue to work on this. Chairman Testani thinks there might be a grant to assist with this project. First Selectman, who had just entered the meeting, suggested that he and Chief Kiely would meet with Jamie Bratt and the State Traffic Authority and let them know that in light of the investment that the Town is making in this area and the region, corrective action needs to be taken. Commissioner DiGennaro will send Chief Kiely a copy of the traffic report that was conducted for his development on Rte. 111.

The Traffic Division assisted Easton PD with their investigation of the following incidents; Judd Road (fatality of Easton Fireman during Hurricane Sandy) and North Park Avenue and Flat Rock Road (serious motor vehicle accident).

Chairman Testani asked about the Town Highway being notified again regarding the posting of a deer crossing sign on Danabue Drive. Lt. Savarese responded that the sign had to be ordered and installation was delayed due to the hurricane and leaf pick-up by Town Highway. They will install the sign when time allows.

Monthly Sick Report

Deputy Chief Harry informed the Commission that once December has ended every officer's sick time will be reviewed for the year and those who exceed the average will be notified by their supervisor to make them aware that it is being monitored with the intention of controlling the abuse of sick time.

Detective Bureau Report

Deputy Chief Harry reported that in addition to the update Deputy Chief Byrnes provided earlier in the meeting about Gene's Automotive, there was also a bank robbery at the Wells Fargo Bank on Hawley Lane. There are some leads and are confident the case will come to a successful conclusion. Deputy Chief Harry needs to give credit to the Detectives and Detective

Testi. In addition to leading that bank robbery investigation, he has been assisting Lt. Savarese with the background investigations for the police officer applicants.

Chief Kiely recently met with CABLE (Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement). They do interventions in psychiatric cases and they are offering training for the officers for free. They have funds that will pay to back fill the officers that are hired to replace those officers that are attending the training, so it will not cost the department extra. The good thing about this program is that with the mental health issues that are occurring now it teaches officers how to recognize and handle the situation properly. There was a 20 year study in Memphis, where the Police Workmen's Compensation went down by 85% because the officers are better trained with how to handle certain situations. As for the victims, it went down by 46%. Chief Kiely is considering sending officers to the training. This will take place in April 2013.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Approval of the Police Commission Schedule of Meetings for 2013

Motion was made to accept the 2013 Police Commission Meeting Schedule for 2013 as presented. MOTION made (Commissioner DiGennaro), 2nd (Commissioner Henry). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Testani wished everyone a Happy Holiday and thanked Commissioner Henry for handling the purchase of gift for Executive Assistant Vivian and wished her and her family a Happy Holiday.

Interview 2 Police Officer Candidates

Commissioner Henry made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m. to interview 2 Police Officer Candidates. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner DiGennaro). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Entering into Executive Session: Commissioners Testani, McGovern, Henry, Zmary and DiGennaro. Also in Executive Session: Chief Kiely, Deputy Chief Harry, Deputy Chief Byrnes, Lt. Savarese, Detective Testi, Officer Yocher and Vivian Munoz.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made to offer the Trumbull Police Officer Positions to Robert Psyz, Jr. and to James Sota pending the medical evaluation. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd

(Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chief Kiely informed the Commission that a Lieutenant has retired therefore there is a need for a Lieutenant's promotional test and Sergeant's promotional test.

Motion made to approve promotional tests for Lieutenant and Sergeant. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2nd (Commissioner Testani) to ADJOURN the Trumbull Police Commission Meeting at 8:55 pm. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission