



THOMAS H. KIELY
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT 06611

158 EDISON ROAD
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT 06611

P (203) 261-3665
F (203) 452-5162

POLICE COMMISSION

JACK TESTANI, CHAIRMAN
ALFRED LIGGINS, COMMISSIONER
ROGER MCGOVERN, COMMISSIONER
LINO COSTANTINI, COMMISSIONER
PHILIP DIGENARO, COMMISSIONER
ALBERT ZAMARY, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Trumbull Police Department – Chief's Conference Room
Tuesday, April 16, 2013

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:41 pm.

Members Present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Lino Costantini
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern

Also Present: Chief Thomas H. Kiely
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese
Officer Blake Petty

Absent: Philip DiGennaro
Albert Zamary

Public Comments

Opened at 7:42 pm.

Ms. Nina Boyton of 107 Whitney Avenue, concerned about the speeding on Whitney Avenue. Ms. Boyton provided some information on Modular Rubber Solutions possibly being installed to reduce the speeding. Chief Kiely indicated that is something that can be looked into and if he believes Newtown had these rubber humps installed, but they did not work. Chief Kiely suggested that an engineer look at the road as well and see what suggestions they have to help reduce the speeding. Chairman Testani asked if the Police Department can implement the installation of the rubber humps or would it need to be coordinated with the Department of Transportation. Has the Town installed something similar to the rubber humps? Chief Kiely indicated that at one point the town did install something similar on Walker Road, but it was not successful. Chairman Testani stated that he knows there has been police presence at the location but would like to request increased presence there. He suggested that there possibly

be a police cruiser on Dunellen Road and the entrance of Indian Ledge Park. Deputy Chief Byrnes suggested that the crossing be reviewed. Lt. Savarese indicated that he has spoken to Ms. Boyton and they will increase the police presence and install the portable pedestrian crossing signs. Chairman Testani thanked Ms. Boyton for bringing her concern.

Public Comment closed at 7:54 p.m.

Approval of February 12, 2013 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2013 as presented. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of March 26, 2013 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2013 as presented. MOTION made (Commissioner Liggins), 2nd (Chairman Testani). There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS, COMMISSIONERS COSTANTINI AND MCGOVERN.

Correspondence

- Thank you note from Chief Salvatore of Monroe PD for having the presence of the three motorcycle units for traffic control during a funeral procession.
- Letter was received from Michael L. Ceruzzi. Mr. Ceruzzi would like to file a civilian complaint on an incident that occurred on 09/25/2012. Chief Kiely indicated that Lt. Savarese will review the incident and will contact Mr. Ceruzzi. Chief Kiely will provide an update on this case, per Chairman Testani's request, at May's meeting.
- Thank you letter from Mr. Joe Peddle for the donation of a police car ride, to the Jane Ryan School Super Bowl Breakfast raffle held in February.

Chief Kiely's Report

Chief Kiely reported on several items:

- On Sunday, April 14th there was an incident at The Eaves which is formerly known as the Avalon Gates which involved a violent domestic. The suspect got away prior to police arriving at the location. The incident turned into a foot pursuit and the Bridgeport Police, State Police and ERT were involved in tracking the suspect down and they were able to apprehend him.
- On May 5, 2013 there will be a Newtown Memorial Motorcycle Ride which will begin in Shelton and will run through Derby, Oxford, Newtown, Monroe and end at the Westfield Shopping Center. There will be entertainment and they are anticipating approximately 5000 motorcycles.
- There will be other events that will take place in the upcoming months including the Memorial Day Parade, Trumbull Day and a celebrity at the Mall. The Police Department will be more vigilant and increase the security for these events.

- Budget update. More funds were requested in next year's budget proposal due to the incident that occurred in Newtown and the department made out well with their request. There will be two (2) new Ford Utility Trucks which are pursuit rated vehicles and three (3) new patrol vehicles. The department was going to purchase Chevy Caprice vehicles but the Ford Utility Trucks has become the new police cruiser. State Police and Fairfield Police are now using these vehicles. Also in the budget we will be able to hire three (3) additional officers to bring the number of officers to 78, but with the unknown number of possible retirees we might be short staffed.
- There are four (4) officers at the Police Academy, three (3) are in Meriden and one (1) in New Haven.
- The Department has completed the Night Fire Training for all officers.
- Bill Connolly and Lt. Ronald Kirby have completed the school security surveys. The improvements are being implemented.
- Alarm Ordinance will be implemented within the next couple of weeks. There will be an advertisement for Town Residents to register their alarms; they will need to come into the Police Department to pick up their forms.
- Officer William Riordan passed away at the end of March.
- White Ribbon Campaign is a program of men against domestic violence. The Police Department has been working with Women and Family Center and on March 29th there was a table set up at the Westfield Shopping Center in front of the Police Substation and over 100 people registered for the White Ribbon Campaign.
- The Town of Trumbull is going to lead a group for the Women and Family Center. It is for a walk named "Walk a Mile in her Shoes" that will take place in Fairfield on April 27th at 8:30 a.m. Chief Kiely along with other Trumbull residents will attend the walk.
- Promotional Tests are moving along. Mary Ann Meier will be providing the Police Department with the Job Postings.
- The Generator at Trumbull High School is moving forward.
- The Command Staff had a training session with Mr. James Rascati of Behavioral Health Consultants. This is the new Employee Assistant Program for the Police Department.
- The FBI will be hosting two (2) day training at the end of this month which will pertain to Active Shooting. Deputy Chief Byrnes and Lieutenant Kirby will be attending the training.
- The Communications Center Upgrade project is moving forward. The architect for this project was hired back in 2006. The department will purchase new computers, MDTs for the patrol cars, installation of auto attendant and audio logs.

Commissioner Costantini asked if the department has received reimbursement from FEMA. Chief Kiely replied the department has not received anything yet but were told only 48 hours of reimbursement will be received.

Chief Kiely requested that the Police Commission vote to end the existing hiring list and begin a new hiring process.

Motion made to end the existing hiring list and move forward in creating a new hiring list. MOTION made (Commissioner Liggins), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- The Tow Policy application is being revised with Attorney Walsh; there are few items on the application that need to be addressed.

Deputy Chief Byrnes Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commission that there were approximately 1,500 calls for the month of March with an average of 50 calls per day. There were 173 Burglar Alarms for the month of March. They are hoping that once the Alarm Ordinance goes into effect less time will be taken from the officers. The K-9 program is going well; they assisted Shelton in March on a case of a missing child and assisted them again on April 16th in a burglary. There were twelve (12) drug violations for the month of March, and one (1) heroin overdose. There were 149 medical calls for the month of March. The department still averages 5 medical calls per day. There were 233 motor vehicle arrests for the month of March. Chairman Testani asked if that number is higher than normal. Deputy Chief Byrnes indicated that it includes officers that do directed enforcement under the traffic grant. There have been 60 criminal arrests for the month of March for a variety of charges.

Traffic

Lieutenant Savarese reported that the traffic division received a complaint regarding stop sign violations – Old Town Road & Horseshoe Drive.

Lieutenant Savarese indicated that the DUI Enforcement Grant began on January 19, 2013 and will continue through September 5, 2013. 166 citations were issued, 1 DUI arrest, during the 7 day enforcement period for March. One (1) additional DUI arrest was made during routine patrol during the month of March. Speed enforcement detail in March was on Route 127, Merrit Boulevard and Daniels Farm Road. The Traffic Division assisted the Bridgeport Police Department with mapping a serious accident. The Traffic Division also assisted Bridgeport with a three (3) car fatal.

Commissioner Liggins asked if there have been any traffic complaints on Frenchtown Road. Lieutenant Savarese indicated that he did receive some complaints for French Town School and Daniels Farm School where traffic is backing up on the roadways due to parents driving children to school. Officer Thompson has spoken to principal at Daniels Farm School about ways to alleviate the traffic backing up. Commissioner Liggins mentioned that Frenchtown School has changed the time of when you can drop your child off at school due to security. It used to be 8:10 a.m. but now it is at 8:20 a.m.

Chairman Testani asked Lieutenant Savarese if he would please provide a report on Ms. Boyton's complaint at the May meeting.

Detective Bureau Report

Deputy Chief Harry reported that the detective bureau had 101 cases opened for the month of March. There were 36 fingerprints done for pistol permit applications. Year-to-date (3 months) there has been 125 pistol permit applications. Last year's total was 161. They are well over last year's total. The Detective Bureau has been fortunate to have the assistance of an officer on light duty to do the finger printing. Currently fingerprints are done on Tuesday's all day by appointment. Due to the increase of applications they had to add an additional ½ day on Wednesday's to accommodate others who need finger printing done for jobs. Officer Michael Gonzalez apprehended a burglar on April 16th. Detective Schwartz solved a burglary that occurred last week. He worked with Fairfield Police Department. An officer solved a probate case that took eight (8) months to solve. There is another probate case the officer has been working on for over a year. By January 14, 2014 the interview room will need to be completed as a grant was received in order to comply with the State. Unfortunately only one room will be set up because there is not enough room in the patrol area to create a second interview room. With the additional money that is left from the grant the department was able to purchase a traffic plotter for the Traffic Division, and will help with upgrades on the firearms.

New Business

Chairman Testani indicated that they should enter into Executive Session to discuss the grievances that are mentioned on the agenda.

Commissioner McGovern made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss Grievances 13-01, 13-03 and 13-04. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner Liggins). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Entering into Executive Session: Commissioners Costantini, Liggins, McGovern and Testani. Also in Executive Session: Chief Thomas Kiely, Deputy Chief Byrnes, Deputy Chief Michael Harry, Attorney Edward Walsh, Officer Blake Petty and Vivian Munoz.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner Liggins). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made to grant Officer Kelly Gonzalez a 12 week leave of absence without pay after the birth of her child later this year. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner Liggins). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Grievance Number 13-01 has been withdrawn.

A motion was made to sustain Chief Kiely's decision of denial pertaining to Grievance Number 13-03. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner Liggins). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made to sustain Chief Kiely's decision of denial pertaining to Grievance Number 13-04. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Unfinished Business

Chairman Testani asked for an update on the posting for the Lieutenant's position. Chief Kiely reported that Mary Ann Meier will be providing a job posting soon. Dr. Larry Jetmore is the testing company that was picked. Officer Blake Petty interviewed Dr. Jetmore as well. Chairman Testani asked how long the testing process is. Chief Kiely reported that it is 90 to 120 days. Officer Blake Petty provided his input on the Union being satisfied with Dr. Jetmore giving the test. The Union has checked with other departments and Fairfield will be using them as well.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting. MOTION made (Commissioner Costantini), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern) to ADJOURN the Trumbull Police Commission Meeting at 9:05 pm. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission