



THOMAS H. KIELY
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT
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POLICE COMMISSION

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

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Long Hill Conference Room – Town Hall
May 13, 2014

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m.

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Albert Zamary

Also Present: Chief Thomas Kiely
Deputy Chief Glenn C. Byrnes
Deputy Chief Michael Harry
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese
Chief Joseph Laucella – EMS
James Haselkamp - Director of Labor Relations

Absent: Lino Costantini
Philip DiGennaro

Public Comments

The Chair opened Public Comment at 7:22 p.m.

John Mandanici, 30 Cathleen Road, Shelton. Mr. Mandanici came before the board to express his concerns regarding the intersection of Wheeler Drive and Woodcrest Avenue. A letter was also received by Mr. Mandanici. Mr. Mandanici indicated that he would remove the stone wall at the corner of Wheeler Drive as it would help the line of sight.

Jamie Bratt, Director of Planning and Development, indicated she was present should the commission have any questions relating to the planning and zoning process. There is currently an active planning and zoning application which was referred to the Police Commission for a

recommendation and will then go back to P&Z. Ms. Bratt explained that there was a subdivision application submitted and was approved a few years ago but the time ran out and the application has been resubmitted by Mr. Mandanici.

Carmine Defeo, 15 Woodcrest Avenue, Trumbull. Mr. Defoe came before the board to express his concern of the location that is being recommended on the installation of the stop signs. He indicated that during the winter due to the hill it will be hard to continue and make the turn. He has no objection of the installation of the stops signs but questioned the location. He indicated that is not safe as the cars go up and down the hill. He would like for the traffic engineer to look at the situation and make their recommendations.

Lt. Savarese indicated that plans were received and explained in detail what the recommendations are from the Traffic Division on the location of the stop signs. Officer Richards from the Traffic Division was assigned to review the intersection of Woodcrest Avenue and Wheeler Drive in regards to the proposed four home subdivisions. Lt. Savarese indicated that usually the Traffic Engineers would be the ones to recommend the location of the stops signs. The Traffic Division does not have the expertise on the recommendation of the location of the stop signs and feels it would be best for a Traffic Engineer to conduct a study, as it would protect the Town and the Police Commission as traffic authority from any liability. Ms. Bratt indicated that they have a Traffic Engineer on call that can be requested to conduct a study. The Police Commission agreed to have the Traffic Engineer provide their recommendations of the stops signs.

Motion made to approve the decision of the traffic engineer regarding the location of stop sign(s) for the McGrath Meadows subdivision at the intersection of Wheeler Drive and Woodcrest Avenue. Moved by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamary. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

There being no other public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comment at 7:58 p.m.

Approval of the April 8, 2014 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the April 8, 2014 minutes as presented. Moved by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Joseph Laucella – EMS Report

Chief Laucella reported that there has been an increase in call volume by 10% from 2013. In April the call volume increased by 15%. They are covering an average of 93% of all the calls each month. The response time per call is 7.1 minutes on average and they are transporting 80% of the time. EMS has 60 volunteers. Having that many volunteers helps especially during the weekends. They have also added a 3rd ambulance on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The highest call volumes are Monday through Friday during the day. EMS continues to recruit, there seems to be four (4) to five (5) new members a month.

There will be a new EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) course that will be geared towards High School and College students beginning July 1st which will be an accelerated class. Officer Fedor will be involved with the course along with the Fire Marshall.

EMS is waiting for notification as they have applied for a FEMA grant in the amount of \$80,000 for two (2) cardiac lifepak 15. They are the ALS monitors you attach to someone's body to monitor their heart. Only 2% of the EMS agencies in the country are awarded this FEMA grant.

Chief Laucella also reported that EMS was nominated by the Town of Trumbull for a Governor's Award for EMS agencies it's the highest award an EMS agency can receive and he's proud and happy to report they will be receiving this recognition at the State Capital on Monday, May 19th. The EMS team is doing fantastic, because of everyone's hard work, which includes the volunteers and staff. They are all working together. Chief Laucella also thanked the Trumbull Police Department as they are fantastic members of the EMS team.

Commissioner Zmary asked what EMS will be doing for their presence at Trumbull Day. Chief Laucella indicated that EMS will be present at the Memorial Day parade with marchers along with coverage at parade. For Trumbull Day there will be a total of four (4) ambulances on duty that day, one (1) will be stationed at the event.

EMS is looking to get a new ambulance which will replace an old one, which will keep the ambulance count at 4. Chairman Testani asked when EMS will be concerned to have a 5th ambulance. Chief Laucella indicated he is more concerned about adding a 3rd ambulance crew that will cover during the day. He feels comfortable with 4 ambulances. Chairman Testani asked what EMS response time goal is. Chief Laucella indicated that the national average is 8 minutes and they are currently at 7 to 7.1 minutes. Chief Laucella receives daily reports regarding response times and number of calls covered and reviews daily.

Chief Kiely's Report

Last weekend there was an FBI exercise at Westfield Shopping Center, the exercise went well. There were some issues that came up but nothing that cannot be fixed. This exercise was handled mainly by the FBI along with ERT, State Police and the Trumbull Police. Chief Kiely shared some pictures of the exercise which included the amount of equipment and personnel that were present.

The Town of Trumbull received a letter from Travelers Risk Control insurance carrier that included recommendations for the police department, including: Tasers-non-flammable aerosol subject restraints, weapons qualification, EVOC refresher, law enforcement liability policy review and police video recordings. The department has addressed those concerns.

The Chief shared an article from USA Today regarding the tourniquets kits that each officer will be issued.

Police Explorer program. Chief Kiely has asked Deputy Chief Lyddy and Sergeant Gunter of the Fairfield Police Department to help review the program. They have submitted a report and Mr. Haselkamp has brought up some suggestions as well. Chief Kiely would like to set up a meeting tomorrow night, May 14th to have the program back up again. The department does not see any point of keeping the program suspended. Chief Kiely asked Mr. Haselkamp if there was anything further he would like to add. Mr. Haselkamp thinks that the department should come up with some sort of material to give to the explorers that explains how they can handle issues so they can feel comfortable who they can approach should they need to discuss any issues. Mr. Haselkamp does not see any issues in having program start up again. Chairman Testani liked the idea of establishing a point of contact. Mr. Haselkamp suggested that the department could give a handout or discuss it verbally at the meeting of what the protocols would be should anyone feel uncomfortable. This will give parents or Explorers the opportunity to ask any questions.

Motion made to re-institute the Trumbull Explorer Program. Moved by Commissioner Zamar, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Kiely also informed the commission that the Police budget has been passed. The officer lever has been kept at 78 officers. The Capital was affected by no cars allotted for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. The mechanic is doing a fantastic job with the maintenance of the vehicles.

Deputy Chief Byrnes – Operations Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes reported Drug Violations for the month of April were 8, 7 marijuana and one crack cocaine. Medical Calls are increasing as it was pointed out by EMS Chief. The medical call numbers are higher, the calls normally average 5 calls per day, for the month of April the calls have been 6 per day.

The K-9s continue to do a great job each month. They have been keeping up with their re-certification that is required by the State Police training program. This past week the K-9s were tested for aggression which they have passed. In the coming months there will be re-certifications in tracking, obedience, obstacles and evidence recovery. Each of these components are part of their training which they are required to recertify semi-annually. They have also been involved with several public events as well as cases that they handle on a regular basis. They have assisted with burglary tracking and a missing girl. There was a person firing a gun in a wooded area in town. When neighbors complained they brought the K-9 and the dog tracked suspect immediately to their home which was on the northern end of town. Recently one of the K-9s was called to assist Bridgeport and had a successful track. The K-9s have been a great asset to department. There were 39 arrests for the month of April.

Deputy Chief Harry - Detective Bureau Report

Deputy Chief Harry reports one (1) armed robbery in mid-April at the Mobil Station on Nichols Avenue. Unfortunately, the video surveillance that they had did not work properly. The Mobil Station bought a new video surveillance camera and in the beginning of May they had an armed robbery and the video surveillance captured the suspect clearly and the department is in the

process of doing an arrest warrant on suspect. Deputy Chief Harry mentioned that there have been a lot of identity thefts/larceny cases which mostly target the elderly but also those in middle aged. The most recent scam is the Green Dot Cards, in which the caller tells them that their grandson is in jail and needs money to get him out jail. The other type of scam is that they tell person your son has been in an accident and they need money for the insurance. The caller asks for their cell number and instructs them to go to CVS and buy a Green Dot Card and have them scratch off the back of the card give them the number on card and then tells them, thank you we will be in contact and never hear back from them. There is also another type of scam which is the IRS and requesting information to process their return. Deputy Chief Harry urges all residents, not to send any money or offer personnel information to anyone, especially over the phone. Please call the police immediately.

Also, the department was awarded 3 e-ticket writers from OPM/CCSU grant. These are printers that go inside the police cars. The information is entered into the MDTs and the machine will print out the ticket for the officer and is uploaded to the State. These e-ticket writers will be installed in the new patrol vehicles.

Deputy Chief Harry also provided an update on the Alarm Status; there have been some issues with the Nexgen module that are being addressed. There are a total of 550 residents and 52 businesses that have registered their alarms. He also shared in his report the schools that have had their alarms activated and at some point the police department will visit the schools to see what is causing the alarms to be activated and correct the issue. Chairman Testani asked if Dr. Cialfi was aware of school alarm activations. Deputy Chief Harry indicated he will share with him the report. Deputy Chief Harry is scheduled to have a meeting next week with Sgt. Florida, Lynn Arnow, Chief of Staff and possibly Chair of the Town Council regarding the alarm fines and notifications. The only suggestion that came is to establish a formal procedure when an alarm is activated when residents get notified and at what point it will go to the Town Attorney for collection.

In October 2013 a UI representative went to a home on Main Street to check on the power to a house that had been shut off about a month prior. The UI representative saw a dog not in good health and notified the police in which the Lynn Dellabianca, Animal Control Officer was also notified. She was able to enter the home through an open door and found a mother pup along with 8 puppies that had been abandoned by the homeowners. ACO Dellabianca did an excellent investigation and prepared two (2) arrest warrants for the homeowners. The dogs have been brought back to good health and have been adopted.

Traffic Report

Lieutenant Thomas Savarese provided a report on traffic complaints/issues

- Signage Route 108 at Route 15 south entrance ramp. There was previous discussion in contacting the CT DOT; they have updated the Trumbull Police Department regarding the request for a dedicated left turn lane. The request has been denied due to insufficient room to properly merge the two northbound lanes to one. DOT would require a formal request they would review the request again as far as designating a left

turn lane. There needs to be some criteria to back up the request as far as accidents and complaints. At this point it does not seem feasible.

- The Traffic Division assisted the Redding in April with a fatal investigation involving one vehicle in their town.
- The Traffic Division assisted Fairfield PD in April with a motor vehicle check-point detail at their annual clam jam event.
- Radar details were conducted at Moose Hill Road, Daniels Farm Road, Whitney Avenue, Merritt Boulevard, Huntington Road and Route 127.
- The speed awareness trailer has been set up at the following locations: Edison Road, Monroe Turnpike, Whitney Avenue near rails to trails crossing.

Chairman Testani read a letter from Stephanie Schott, 42 Melrose Avenue regarding the street being used as a cut through street. Chairman Testani asked that the Traffic Division contact the resident. Lt. Savarese indicated that the resident has been contacted and the Patrol Division will be notified to monitor Melrose Avenue.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Mr. Haselkamp requested that early retirement offering for the non-union staff for the police department be added to agenda.

Motion made to add to the agenda discussion under executive session proposal to non-union early retirement incentive package. Moved by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Byrnes provided an update on the Communications Center project, which has had some significant progress. The Fire Dispatch located in the police department will be moving out during the last week of the month and the service will be transferred to the CMED dispatch center that currently does the medical dispatch. The first half of the project includes the radio system upgrade that has been approved and has begun. The second part of the project which is the renovation of the building. With the cooperation of public works director and the purchasing department, an RFP was posted by the Town for a combination of architects and builders to do the specified renovation work. The closing date of the RFP is in June.

Personnel Matters

Commissioner McGovern made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. for discussion of update of new hires and discussion of the proposal to non-union early retirement incentive package. Moved by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamarly. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Entering into Executive Session: Commissioners Liggins, McGovern, Testani, Zmary, Chief Kiely, Deputy Chief Byrnes, Deputy Chief Harry, Lieutenant Savarese, James Haselkamp and Vivian Munoz.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 9:32 p.m. Moved by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zmary. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion made to approve the non-union early retirement incentive package for the Chief and Deputy Chief as presented by Mr. Haselkamp. Moved by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss and upon motion made by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zmary the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vivian Munoz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "z".

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of Commission