



THOMAS H. KIELY
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POLICE COMMISSION

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

Special Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Long Hill Conference Room – Town Hall
August 19, 2014

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order at 6:26 p.m.

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Lino Costantini
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Albert Zamarly

Absent: Philip DiGennaro

Also Present: Chief Thomas Kiely
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Michael Harry

Approval of the July 15, 2014 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2014 as presented. Motion made 1st by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION Commission Costantini.

Correspondence

None.

Chief Kiely's Report

Chief Kiely reported that the Trumbull Police officers did an active shooting training at St. Joseph High School. All the officers that attend the training said it was one of the best. St. Joseph High School was very welcoming and helpful while the training occurred. Sgt. Falkenstein, Lt. Scinto, Sgt. Jones, Sgt. Allen, Officer Duva and Officer Fedor ran the training. The K-9 Officers and the CT State Police also attended. The Explorers also assisted in the training. It was a great success. Chief Kiely explained the officer's practiced different scenarios. Chief Kiely

suggested that the active shooting training should be done yearly. Commissioner Costantini asked “why was it done at St. Joseph High School vs. Trumbull High School?” Chief Kiely responded that the high school was not available at the time of the training. Chairman Testani asked “when was the last time this type of training was done?” Chief Kiely responded that it has not been done due to training budget not having enough money. All the officer’s would need to be called in. The officers will be getting a tour of all the schools so they can get acquainted with the schools. The Board of Education has hired security guards for all the public schools in Trumbull. Officers will continue to visit the schools as part of their daily patrol.

Chairman Testani said at some point there should be a re-evaluation of the cost of putting a light on Daniels Farm Road and Strobel Road vs. having an officer do the traffic. Chief Kiely indicated that he was at a meeting at Town Hall and John Marsillio indicated that they are doing an engineering study and are going to put a light up on Daniels Farm Road and Strobel Road.

The certified officers are out on the road.

Officers Marino and Vanfleet will be graduating from Meriden Academy on September 17, 2014.

Officer Bartosik will be graduating from the New Haven Academy on October 3, 2014.

Officers Federowicz and Bachiocchi will graduate from Waterbury Police Academy on December 28, 2014.

One of the Police Explorers is working on becoming an Eagle Scout and the department is currently working on a project with him for Public Safety Day. On September 13, 2014 at the Westfield Shopping Center there will be a Public Safety Day.

Chief Kiely mentioned an article about Crowd Management and Protecting Civil Rights written by Daigel Law Group LLC. The article will be emailed to the commission for their reading.

The Police Shooting Range had a buildup of ammunition and a company was hired to clean it. Asset Forfeiture money was used to clean the range and the cost was \$13,000.00.

The ERT Team will be conducting their yearly 2 week training in October.

Chief Kiely mentioned about open carry, people want to carry their firearms since they have a Pistol Permit. Pistol Permits use to be for concealed weapons, now it permits people to carry a firearm on their hip. There was an incident at the Westfield Shopping center that some had their firearm with them and the mall has a policy that they cannot bring in their firearm. The person was cooperative and left the mall.

The Police Department is working with Ed Lavernovich of Planning & Zoning regarding the noise ordinance.

Deputy Chief Byrnes – Operations Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes reported the overdoses are becoming State and Nationwide. The heroin epidemic has become a problem everywhere. DC Byrnes mentioned in the last 2 months there have been eight (8) overdose cases all involving heroin. The rising factor is the ages of the victims and they are between 17-24; luckily all of the victims have been resuscitated with the help of EMS.

The three (3) certified officers went through a two (2) week EMS training with Chief Laucella in which he provided refresher on all aspects of medical response. Chief Kiely read a commendation email from the Schott family regarding Officer Corbit on a medical call. The email also commended Officer Robert Lee pertaining to an accident in Trumbull Center that occurred several years ago.

Deputy Chief Byrnes provided a Year-to-Date statistics report that is different from the ones that are received every month. There is one category that stands out and that is the Alarms, month to month you do not notice a change but with the YTD statistics you do show a slight decrease from last year. The statistics also showed that the overall case load has increase slightly.

Commissioner Zamary asked if the Police Officers are still the first responders. DC Byrnes responded that they still are. The officers help the EMS crew in a variety of things such as staying with the family, driving the ambulance to the hospital and assisting EMS in the back of the ambulance.

Commissioner Costantini asked about the False Alarm numbers being higher for the month of July. Since the ordinance was adopted has there been a drastic drop on the false alarms for town buildings and residential? DC Harry responded that in July town building alarms have decreased. At the end of every month DC Harry provides the Superintendent with a list of the schools alarms and the Superintendent speaks with the schools individually.

Deputy Chief Byrnes reports there were 55 arrests for the month of July. There were some significant burglary charges, weapon possession, narcotics and DUI stops. There were 4 DUI cases for the month of July.

Traffic Report

A letter was received from State DOT on June 20, 2014 regarding Route 111 (Monroe Turnpike) at Drive to Chips/Edge Fitness Town of Trumbull. The letter is recommending the installation of a traffic light along with a sidewalk. Based on the findings from the DOT, they would support the traffic light and if the Town of Trumbull agrees OSTA will require the property owner of the Chips/Edge Fitness shopping center to install the signal and revise the site of the driveway. But this needs to be discussed further.

Commissioner McGovern asked if the commission has the authority to change the speed limit from 40 MPH to 25 MPH. Chief Kiely responded that they do not have the authority to change the speed limit on the road it is a State road. Chief Kiely indicated that a letter can be sent to the State DOT with the suggestion of changing the speed limit.

Commissioner McGovern made a motion to petition the State asking them to change the speed limit on both directions on Route 111 (Monroe Turnpike) near Chips from 40 MPH to 25 MPH. Motion made 1st by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamary. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

The Chair opened Public Comment at 7:20 p.m.

Carmine Defeo of 15 Woodcrest Avenue expressed his concerns about the noise coming from Briarwoods Terrace. There are about seven (7) families that are part of the complaint. The noise is coming from ATVs, motorcycles and during the winter of snowmobiles. Mr. Defeo indicated that the children are not destructive but they are getting older the bikes are getting bigger and the noise is getting worse. Mr. Defeo has asked the police department several times to see if the noise meter could be brought out to the area and has been told that the noise meter is broken, noise machine has not be calibrated and no one is qualified to use the noise machine. Mr. Defeo is asking for help as this is becoming a health issue. Chief Kiely indicated that he will have the noise meter checked and have officers drive by the area as part of their patrol. Chief Kiely recommended if there is a constant disturbance to call the police right away and an officer will get there as soon as possible.

Keith Rongey of 7 Woodcrest Avenue expressed his concerns of the noise as well coming from Briarwoods Terrace. Mr. Rongey asked for the noise meter to be calibrated and suggested leaving the noise meter at a location for 2-3 weeks to measure the noise.

There being no public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comment at 7:34 p.m.

Deputy Chief Harry - Detective Bureau Report

Deputy Chief Harry reported the detectives are keeping busy. The detectives are currently working with the FBI on a case from 2010, the Harsten Jewelry store robbery. This case is still an ongoing investigation. There have been some burglaries that have been resolved. There have also been some larcenies and the credit goes to Detective Schwartz who checks all the pawn shops and has recovered expensive jewelry. Currently there is a detective that will be out for a month due to a long term injury.

Commissioner McGovern asked about a probate case that has been mentioned for quite a few months, and where does it stand. He thought it had been resolved. DC Harry indicated that there are several probate cases and the one Commissioner McGovern is referring to is well over a year old. Detective Coppola has spent a great deal of time putting the case together and has met with the prosecutor. The warrants are currently with the prosecutor and they have indicated that they

will be signed before October.

Commissioner McGovern questioned the DB report showing 80 cases open in July and then current total cases 57. DC Harry indicated that out of the 80 cases that are open 63 cases were fingerprints. There have also been car break-ins. DC Harry explained that it takes time to close a case out, especially since the Detective Bureau is understaffed. If another case comes in the detective needs to put the case they are working on hold and begin the new case. Chief Kiely explained also that there are cases that are at least a couple years old. Chief Kiely welcomed Commissioner McGovern to come into the Detective Bureau so he can have a better understanding on how the cases are worked on.

Deputy Chief Harry informed the commission that the towing applications expire August 20, 2014. DC Harry has mailed out the applications again to the towing companies for their completion. DC Harry is asking the commission for a 30 day extension so the towing companies can have enough time to complete the applications.

Commissioner McGovern made a motion to extend the current towing permits for 30 days. Moved by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

None.

There being no further business to discuss and upon motion made by Commissioner Costantini, seconded by Commissioner Zmary the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of Commission