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POLICE COMMISSION

JACK TESTANI, CHAIRMAN
PHILIP DIGENNARO
ALFRED LIGGINS
ROGER MCGOVERN
DANIEL PORTANOVA
ALBERT ZAMARY

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Long Hill Conference Room – Town Hall
April 14, 2015

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Daniel Portanova
Albert Zamaray

Absent: Philip DiGennaro

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Ronald Kirby
Deputy Chief Thomas Savarese
Officer Paul Coutinho
Officer James Sota

Chairman Testani indicated that Public Comments has been added to the agenda beginning tonight and for the record public comment will continue unless Chairman Testani deems it appropriate to change it in the future. For the record if any visitors wish to speak under Public Comments they will be limited to two (2) minutes per person for comments.

Public Comments

The Chair opened Public Comment at 7:04 p.m.

There being no public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comment at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the March 11, 2015 Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes of March, 11 2015 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION Commissioner McGovern.

Motion was made to move item number 7, Tighe and Bond, Christopher Granatini out of order from agenda. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamarly. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Tighe and Bond-Traffic

Christopher Granatini of Tighe and Bond is present on behalf of his client Bridgeport Hospital as part of the project where a traffic signal has been installed at the intersection northbound Merritt Parkway ramp and the proposed paved drive for the medical facility on Park Avenue. Currently there are no sidewalks in the area of the project and by state policy to either have pedestrian accommodations as part of the signal or to get local traffic authority to acknowledge they are accepting of the concept of no pedestrian activity and no pedestrian accommodations have been designed into the traffic signal. Mr. Granatini provided a detail explanation of the map displayed. Mr. Granatini spoke about the letter he submitted to the Town of Trumbull Frank Smeriglio. Deputy Chief Savarese provided the commission with a copy of the letter and Mr. Granatini spoke about it regarding the Park Avenue Traffic Control Signals. What Tighe & Bond and the State DOT is seeking from the local traffic authority approval to install "No Pedestrian Crossing" signs at the signalized intersection with the Bridgeport Hospital site driveway.

Commissioner Liggins asked what the building is used for. Mr. Granatini explained that the building is a medical office, ambulatory care and cancer treatment, it is a mini hospital. It is not a place where people will be walking to.

Commissioner McGovern asked if there are any future plans for a bus to come to Park Avenue. Mr. Granatini indicated what his understanding is, if there is a demand for bus pick up and drop off at the site, the bus will stop right in front of the facility. The bus company will adjust their bus route if there is a demand at the facility.

Commissioner Zamarly indicated he is a member of St. Nicholas Church and would like to know if it is going to affect traffic entering and exiting the church? Mr. Granatini indicated that it should not have any effect.

Mr. Granatini explained that pedestrians would not have to cross the road to get the bus as the bus has the use of the roundabout to go south. Again Mr. Granatini does not see pedestrians walking as this is a cancer treatment center and doesn't see that patients will be walking to the facility. Mr. Granatini indicated that in the letter the Bridgeport Hospital agreed that should there be a need in the future for a pedestrian crossing, they have acknowledged to the town that they would fund the cost of improvements for pedestrian signals, etc.

Chairman Testani asked Mr. Granatini what Tighe & Bond is looking for from the Police Commission, to make a motion that stipulates "No Pedestrian Crossing" to be installed at the Park Avenue traffic control signals. Mr. Granatini recommended that the motion indicate that the town as local traffic authority concurs with the design of not accommodating a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of the driveway.

Motion made for the town local traffic authority to concur with the “No Pedestrian Crossing” sign installed at the intersection of the driveway. Motion made first by Commissioner Zamary, seconded by Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Chief Lombardo sent memo to four (4) officers, Officers Coutinho, Marino, Van Fleet and Wheeler as they were involved in a save of a 73 year old male in cardiac arrest. The officers responded and assisted with manual CPR as they waited for EMS personnel who attached the defibrillator to the gentleman who was shocked several times until his heart began to function. Chief Laucella who was also on scene indicated the officers worked seamlessly with EMS and they saved the gentlemen’s life and he left the hospital last week. Chief wanted to bring to the attention to commission that the officers played a big part in saving this gentlemen’s life. The officers’ rapid response and the training again played a big part in saving his life. This is something the officers should be proud of.

Chief Lombardo sent a memo to Officer Moramarco who responded to a house fire on Madison Avenue. The Officer got to the scene, found that everyone was out of the home and were safe. Officer Moramarco went into the house, put the fire out with the vehicle fire extinguisher and prevented it from spreading throughout the home.

Chief’s Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls-for-Service for the month of March and indicated there were about 340 more calls in the month of March than February; Alarms are a little higher for the month of March. Chairman Testani asked if the alarm notification post card has been instituted. Chief Lombardo indicated that it has been. There were 213 False Alarms for the month of March. Officers are doing more building checks and community policing. The officers are getting out of their cars and checking buildings when the businesses are not open. There were 215 building checks for the month of March, considerably more than February. There were 84 Community Policing cases. It is important for the officers to get out of the cars, walk around and talk to people. The officers walk around in the Westfield Shopping Center and Hawley Lane Mall.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Arrest Summary for the month of March. There were a lot of larcenies, shoplifting and some domestics.

Traffic Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Traffic Report in which there were parking complaints, stop sign violations and speeding vehicles.

Stop sign violations/speeding vehicles on Dayton Road and Asbury Road

The area was added to the monthly traffic complaint enforcement list along with placing the speed trailer for speed enforcement.

Route 111 traffic review of the proposed revision of the site development plans for 50 Corporate Drive and 95 Corporate Drive. Deputy Chief Savarese provided a copy of a letter from Milone & McBroom regarding the proposed revisions of the 50 Corporate Drive site and expansion of 95 Corporate Drive. The letter summarizes that they do not expect any

problems or mitigation on the state highway on Route 111. This proposal was sent to DOT and they still have to review the plans and verify the traffic counts. Milone & MacBroom does not foresee any issues. What they recommend from the local traffic authority if they feel it is acceptable to concur with the plan but make it contingent upon the review and concurrence with the CT State of Transportation.

Chairman Testani asked, what about the Planning & Zoning Commission. Deputy Chief Savarese indicated he does not have any information of the Planning & Zoning. This would just be the local traffic authority decision on the application process that is needed. Chairman Testani's opinion is that they should not approve anything that has not already been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Again his opinion is they should give approval if and when the approval from DOT and Planning & Zoning is received. Chief Lombardo mentioned that in the letter there is a note stating the approval from the Trumbull Planning & Zoning Commission but the material was not attached. The material that was presented at meeting was reviewed and the commission decided to table.

Motion was made to table the discussion of the 50 and 95 Corporate Drive until the May 14, 2015 Police Commission meeting. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Testani requested that a representative from Planning & Zoning attend the May 14, 2015 Police Commission meeting to discuss the approval process and what was considered.

Supplemental Information

The 2014/2015 DUI Enforcement Grant began on November 21, 2014 and will continue through September 7, 2015. Twenty eight (28) citations were issued during the two (2) day enforcement period for March.

The Traffic Division was assigned to investigate a one car fatal motor vehicle accident on Old Saw Mill Road near Wisteria Drive during the month of March. They were assisted by the Monroe Police Department Traffic Division.

The Town of Trumbull is participating in the Redflex Student Guardian bus video violation program. Three (3) citations were issued for the month of March.

Thirty eight (38) total cases were assigned to the Traffic Division Officers during the month of March. These cases included: 2 motor vehicle complaints, 3 car seat installations, 2 escorts, and 28 motor vehicle citations (Includes DUI Grant/School bus violations).

The Distractive Driving Enforcement Grant began in April.

Chairman Testani mentioned that Commissioner Zmary has made him aware of many complaints regarding the morning traffic on Daniels Farm Road and traffic not flowing properly into the schools. The amount of time people have to wait in the morning is to the extent of people turning around, going home and bringing their child later to school.

Commissioner Zarny indicated that he spoke with Deputy Chief Kirby and that he is aware of the complaints and that the problem is being corrected and will be monitored. Chairman Testani asked as of when. Deputy Chief Kirby reported more than a couple of weeks ago. There were a couple of days that the traffic was affected due to the weather conditions. Lt. Golding is aware of this as he received phone calls from citizens. Sgt. Lopes has been going to the locations to monitor the traffic and has provided suggestions. There are days that more people drive their children to school and that is what tends to increase the traffic. Chairman Testani requested an update in May.

Training Report

Chief Lombardo indicated that the commission could see all the training that was done in the month of March in their material presented. There were about 10 officers that attended recertification. The department has been teaming up with Monroe Police Department to do a combined regional Scuba Team. Training was done in Trumbull with our officers and Monroe officers. It is similar to what is done with the ERT and Accident Reconstruction. There was a mock car accident planning with Officer Fedor, TPAUD Coalition meeting both Chief Lombardo and Officer Fedor attended. Officer Velky attended the University of New Haven Career Fair.

Police Explorer Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the report provided by Officer Fedor, the Police Explorers had several meetings for the month of March, one of them being Suspect Searches & Use of Deadly, Suspect Searches & Handcuffing Techniques and Introduction to Arrest & Control Techniques.

Sick Report

Chief Lombardo reported no major changes, the mid-night Lieutenant returned to work. Some officers are still out on long term but one of them has returned on light duty.

Detective Bureau Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Bureau report that for the month of March there were 69 cases opened of which 50 have been closed. There were 39 open cases from previous months added to the 19 remaining from March equaling out to 58 open cases still. There were 4 burglaries reported for the month of March. Chairman Testani asked what type of burglaries and any specific location in town? Chief Lombardo indicated they were residential and Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that they were all in random areas of town, Daniels Farm Road, Pomona Road, Broadbridge Road and Mt. Pleasant Drive. There was a business burglary at the Trumbull Animal Hospital, a window was broken but there was no entry.

Chairman Testani commented on the Alarm Notification under the False Alarm Ordinance tab. A notice will be left at the home in which will let them know that the police were there due to an alarm and also provide the Alarm Ordinance information.

Chairman Testani mentioned discussion in the past that the police department town website would be updated. Chief Lombardo indicated that IT Director Bill Chinn and he have spoken and Bill has made a few updates and more items will be added.

Chief Lombardo reported that the Mall's General Manager is away this week. Deputy Chief Byrnes goes to the Westfield Shopping Center several times a week to touch base and move project along. The shopping center sent their design plans out and it got delayed due to the company that is providing cost estimates was slow in getting back to the shopping center. The General Manager is working well with the police department and has five other regional malls he is in charge of and is being pulled in different directions. About a week ago Chief Lombardo visited the location of the substation and no work has been done yet and the Chief and Deputy Chief Byrnes will continue follow up with the General Manager. Chief Lombardo indicated that the location of the police substation is one of the better locations.

Chairman Testani asked if there has been any time frame on the police substation. Deputy Chief Byrnes reports that no time frame has been given and he thinks it would hard because of the preparation and cost estimates that they need to collect. Chairman Testani asked for an update. Deputy Chief Byrnes will provide an update when available.

Personnel

As the commission is aware one of the recruit that was given a probationary position with the department did not pass what is required from the Police Academy. He failed the agility test on April 2nd. Joseph Iucci is no longer on the Trumbull Police Departments payroll.

Motion was made to terminate Joseph Iucci as he did not pass the required agility test for him to attend the Police Academy. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Lombardo asked the police commission to terminate the current hiring list and authorize a new test for entry level police officer.

Motion was made to terminate the current hiring list and authorize a new test for entry level police officer. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Presentation of proposed uniform change

Chief Lombardo mentioned that he informed the police commission of changing the police uniforms from grey to blue. Officer Sota and Officer Coutinho displayed the two (2) different types of uniforms, Class B and Class C. The class B uniform is a formal look that includes the tie and use of a short sleeve or long sleeve shirt. The class C uniform is a casual look that allows the officer to wear the bulletproof vest on the outside but will blend in. The other change will be the style of pants with the cargo pockets on the side of the leg.

Chairman Testani asked the total cost for the new uniforms. Chief Lombardo indicated that they are still working on the company that they will purchase the uniform from. The cost to purchase all new uniforms for the patrol officers would be around \$55,000. Per the contract officers are to receive 7 uniforms, the Union has agreed to reduce the number of uniforms given the first year so the department can obtain the new uniforms. The cost of the new uniforms will come out from the regular uniform account and the remaining will be paid out of the Asset Forfeiture account. September is the goal for the new uniforms or sooner. The Chief and Deputy Chiefs will remain wearing white.

Motion made to approve the proposed uniform change as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Liggins made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:01 p.m. MOTION made by first by Commissioner Liggins and seconded by Commissioner McGovern. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Entering into Executive Session: Chairman Testani, Commissioners Liggins, McGovern, Portanova and Zmary and Chief Lombardo.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. Motion made first by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business to discuss, and upon motion made by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Zmary, the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission