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POLICE COMMISSION

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

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

MINUTES

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

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman (arrived at 7:15 p.m.)
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Daniel Portanova
Albert Zamary

Absent: Philip DiGennaro

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes (arrived at 7:15 p.m.)
Deputy Chief Ronald Kirby
Chief Joe Laucella
✓ James Swift

A motion was made to move Item 8 – New Business – James Swift, Booth Hill Housing Project. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Lombardo informed the commission under the New Business tab there is a report from the Traffic Division regarding a subdivision of four (4) homes on 607 Booth Hill Road. The Traffic Division checked the location and there is a clear line of sight both north and south on Booth Hill Road and do not see any issues with the project. Planning and Zoning also requested to review location from a traffic point of view. Chief Lombardo introduced Mr. Swift as he is present at the meeting if the Police Commission has any questions regarding the project. Mr. Swift explained the subdivision is on Booth Hill Road and showed a map of the location. Mr. Swift indicated that they have checked with the Department of Transportation site lines and there seem to be no issues. It was asked if Planning and Zoning has approved the project. Mr. Swift indicated that they have approved it.

Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova to accept Mr. Swift's report as presented by that there is a clear line of site both north and south on Booth Hill Road and there are no concerns, the Traffic Division has reviewed the location as well and they recommend to the commission that they approve the project, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

The Vice-Chairman opened Public Comment at 7:04 p.m.

There being no further public comments Vice-Chairman Albert Zmary closed the Public Comment at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the June 9, 2015 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2015 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Letter to Detective Murray commending him on two (2) separate cases, one involving an elderly resident who sent over \$13,000 to a banking institute, Detective Murray was able to recover over \$10,000 from the banking institutions. The other case an elderly resident was informed that she won a large amount of money and she needed to send a cash payment to an address in Canada in order to get the winnings. She sent approximately \$9,000 to the given address and Detective Murray was able to contact the New Westminster Police Department and a Detective Constable was able to investigate and determine where the money was sent. The Detective Constable went to the address and was able to retrieve the check. It was then sent back to Detective Murray, not only was he able to retrieve the victims money, he drove her to the bank so she could deposit the money back into her account.

A letter from a Stratford resident commending on how well Officer Coutinho conducted himself as he was stopped for a traffic violation. Chief responded to his letter thanking him for commending the officer.

Chief's Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls-for-Service for the month of June and indicated there were 1,733 calls. Chief Lombardo also presented a couple new reports that broke down the calls-for-service a little further, month by month and year to date. The commission liked the new format and would like to continue to receive the new report for future meetings.

Traffic Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Traffic Report and indicated there were 61 cases for the month of June.

Item #3 Rails to Trails proposed improvements: Deputy Chief Kirby has been working with the Engineering Department and Town Highway on the Rails to Trail in which they have come up with some suggestions as in enhancing the area and to make it safer for the pedestrians. The Chief recommended that the Police Commission take a look at the map provided to get an idea of what is being proposed. Deputy Chief Kirby reviewed the map and indicated that they had an Engineering firm come and review the location and they suggested some ideas. The cross walk section will have a larger crossing along with reflectors that will make drivers and pedestrians aware of the location. They are looking to increase the size of the crossing signs, warning signs, and large stop signs to encourage the pedestrians to take the extra precaution prior to crossing the road. There are recommending to add lighted signs which are solar power, button will be pressed by pedestrian and the sign will begin to flash to warn the traffic of upcoming pedestrian crossing. In addition the line of sight needs to be cleared; there is vegetation that will need to be cut down. Public Works will work on having the vegetation cut to clear the area. Question was asked when these improvements will take place. Deputy Chief Kirby indicated that the Engineering Department is looking for the funding. Question was asked if there is a grant that can be applied for. Chief Lombard responded that it is possible but thinks the way thing is occurring between Engineering and Public Works doing the work it would be quicker. Deputy Chief Kirby indicated that they spoke about the cost of what is being proposed and that did not seem to be a problem. Deputy Chief Kirby will provide an update at the August meeting.

Other- Ian Maloney,

Chief Lombardo introduced Ian Maloney from Troop 67 and a Lieutenant on the Trumbull Police Cadet program and congratulated him on his accomplishment of his Eagle Scout. Ian Maloney, 27 Monitor Hill Road, provided a presentation to the Police Commission on his service project. Mr. Maloney chose to do a Public Safety Day in which he worked on for 11 months with the help of Officer Fedor. Mr. Maloney contacted the Westfield Shopping Center to secure a location to have his event there. He had several area Police Departments, Trumbull Fire Department, EMS, Red Cross, TPAUD, Trumbull Animal Control, Center for Family Justice, CT State Police and others participate in this event. There was a Helicopter landing. Target donated waters and Gatorades to this event. Mr. Maloney spread the word of his event through the scouts, social media, flyers, poster boards, press release and did an interview with Connecticut Style (News 8). Mr. Maloney received the "Clarence F. Heiman Leadership Award", "Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award" Connecticut Yankee Council recipient and September 13, 2014 (the day of the event) First Selectman Herbst gave Ian a proclamation stating that September 13, 2014 was Ian Maloney Day in the town of Trumbull. Mr. Maloney formally asked the Police Commission to host another Traffic Safety Day in 2016 on behalf of the Trumbull Police Cadets. The Police Commission was in agreement.

Training

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Training Report which showed several courses for the month of June. Chief Lombardo mentioned the Accreditation Manager Training course in which Lt. Scinto attended at POSTC and mentioned that it will take about a year to reach tier 1.

Cadet Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Cadet Report which showed several events, meetings and training the Cadets participated in for the month of June.

Sick/Injury Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the sick report.

Detective Bureau Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Bureau report for the month of June. There was total of 69 opened cases in the month of June in which 29 are still open.

EMS Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the EMS Report; he reported there were 392 calls for the month of June in which 92% of the calls were handled by Trumbull EMS. There are currently 9 new members who are in training. One of the EMS vehicles is currently out of service.

Chairman Testani requested an update on the Police recruits currently at the academy. Chief Lombardo reported that both recruits are doing well, recruit Jimenez who started the academy in April is half way through the program, he will complete the academy at the end of August. Recruit Iucci began the Waterbury Academy in May.

Chairman Testani asked about the Fall Festival which will be held on September 12th and September 13th is the Arts Festival. Chairman Testani would like a summary for the August meeting of what plans the department has made for the event. Chief Lombardo indicated that he has met several times with Fall Festival Committee which includes the First Selectman and Chief of Staff, the planning is still being worked on, there are some things that might be different from the past events and that the number of officers will be determined. Chairman Testani indicated that one of the concerns that residents have voiced to him is the traffic. Chief Lombardo indicated that they are still working on the preliminaries and hopes to have some answers to the questions the Chairman is asking as the Chief will be attending another meeting with the committee on July 15th and will share with the commission. Chairman asked again if in the August meeting the Chief could share what safety measures along with EMS will be in place for the event. Chief Lombardo indicated he will explain to the commission what will take place without getting into too much detail about the security measures in the public forum.

Chief Lombardo mentioned as the commission is probably aware the First Selectman has created a Drug Prevention Task Force that will involve all stake holders in the community, police, school systems, EMS, residents, counseling centers, etc. When Chief Lombardo first met with First Selectman Herbst they spoke about the drug problem in town, specifically Heroin and prescription usage and how it has caused too many deaths of young people. Again, this is going to be a community effort not just the police to help with the problem. The drug problem is not just in Trumbull it is all over the state, all over the region. The town is planning a Drug Take Back day at one of the schools besides the police department where there is currently the Drug

Drop Box. The event will held on September 26th so residents can bring any prescriptions to dispose properly.

Commissioner Portanova asked what is done for the privacy of the residents who have their name on the prescription. Officer Fedor responded that the drug disposal is completely anonymous, they can remove the label from the container or they can leave it on as when the items are collected they are placed in dark bag and no one can see the contents in the bag. Officer Fedor indicated that when the drop box is full they do not have to inventory the contents inside the bag, they just weigh the bags. Every 2 months they bring the bags to be incinerated and 2 officers need to be together when this is done.

Chairman Testani asked about the police website. Chief Lombardo indicated that Bill Chin did do some changes on the website; eventually it will include a message from the Chief, break up divisions on the website, and email addresses for department personnel.

Chairman Testani asked for an update on the police department renovations.

Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that removal of the spray-on fire proofing was reported not hazardous; however EAP and the Department of Health require removal. Agreement was finally made and within the next two (2) weeks or so the work will begin on this project. Deputy Chief Byrnes provided a detailed explanation of the project. The process of relocating department personnel will begin within the next couple of weeks. This is a huge project as furniture, computers, sergeants' offices, Records department and the dispatch center will be relocated to a temporary location on the first floor. Deputy Chief Byrnes also reported that a good portion of this project will be completed by the end of this year. Question was asked what safeguards are being done with Dispatch. Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that there will be no disruption of service when dispatch is relocated temporarily. The temporary location will be tested prior to removing any of the existing radios, telephones, etc. Deputy Chief Byrnes is very confident everything will transition over with no problems.

Commissioner Liggins asked about the tower at headquarters. Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that the project could begin as soon as the next 30 days. The company has already made markings on the pavement for utilities.

Chairman Testani asked for an update on the construction project for the August and September meeting and may have the October meeting at Police Headquarters so the commission can see progress on the project. Chairman also asked if pictures can be shared of the project progress.

Chief Lombardo and First Selectman Herbst met with representative of the Westfield mall regarding the police substation. Mr. Madden gave a window of 60 days to begin the police substation as he needs to get approval for funding which is approximately \$30,000. He also needs to relocate the individuals who are in that location. The patrol of the mall will continue even after the police substation is complete. There will be no set schedule of when the officers

come and go from the Westfield shopping center. Chairman Testani asked for another update at the August meeting.

Chairman Testani mentioned that the K-9s have received their vests a few months ago, the vests where provided through a grant.

Chairman Testani asked the status of the new uniforms. Chief Lombardo responded that it will probably be a few more months, as they are working with the Purchasing Agent to go out for bid. In the meantime the department is working on getting the officers measured and fitted so the new company can have the measurements ready.

Commissioner Zmary asked for an update on the Body Cameras. Chief Lombardo indicated that the department has been working with IT. Deputy Chief Byrnes has also been working on the body cameras and Watch Guard system to outfit all the cars. DC Byrnes is working with Bill Chin and he hopes by the end of this calendar year this will be done.

Chairman Testani asked the status on the police cars. Chief Lombardo indicated that the department has been down 10 to 11 cars, when some officers have had to double up in the cars. Chairman asked if the new vehicles have arrived. Chief indicated that Deputy Chief Savarese has a meeting on Wednesday with the vendor who has the state bid. DC Savarese reported that once the cars are ordered it takes about 10 to 13 weeks to receive them and then a few more weeks to outfit the cars properly. The department is looking to hire a full-time mechanic. The Highway Department has been helpful with the cars, but they have also had to send out the cars to outside repair shops.

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