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POLICE COMMISSION

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

Special Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Long Hill Conference Room – Town Hall
October 20, 2015

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Phil DiGennaro

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Thomas Savarese
First Selectman Timothy Herbst
Chief Joseph Laucella

Approval of the September 8, 2015 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2015 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION Commissioner Zamary.

Correspondence

Letter from Juanita Evans thanking Officers Richard and Thompson for assisting during the Mass at Webster Bank Arena on September 19th.

Letter from Bonnie Hojnacki-Dunitz, Director of Nursing, and Spring Meadows of Trumbull commended Officer Coutinho as he responded to a 911 EMS call as a resident was not breathing and sadly EMS pronounced the resident. Officer Coutinho's showed professionalism to her, the staff and the resident's family during a difficult time.

Memo from DEPUTY CHIEF Byrnes regarding Officer Coutinho's who assisted Mr. Scinto with a Stolen MV. Mr. Scinto complimented Officer Coutinho's professionalism.

Memos regarding Deputy Chiefs Byrnes, Kirby and Savarese's Evaluation.

Letter from the State of Connecticut with the performance record of Officer Jimenez who recently completed his training at the Connecticut Police Academy's Basic Training Program.

Letter from Trumbull resident regarding Porters Hill Road stop sign to read "Oncoming traffic does not stop".

A motion was made to move Item 6 – Unfinished Business – Recognition of Police Cadets for Awards received at the Cadet Police Academy. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Lombardo indicated that the Police Cadets in July they attended the Police Academy at the University of Harford in which hundreds of cadets attend. The Trumbull Police Cadets along with Officer Fedor attended the weeklong event. Officer Fedor explained that in July the Police Cadets attended week long training at the University of Hartford in which they do several mock events.

Jenna Racz achieved the rank of Chief in the Cadet Police Academy overseeing the entire operation during the week, which was an honor as she represents Trumbull.

Jenna Racz explained that the Trumbull Police Cadets attended a one week at the Cadet Police Academy which was held at the University of Hartford. The Cadet Police Academy is a one week team building program that challenges the cadets physically, academically and emotionally. Through their participation, cadets gain experience and knowledge in different aspects of law enforcement, as well as partake in physical training and drill and ceremony exercises. The cadet police academy is designed to emphasize the importance of teamwork and it was a great experience.

The following Cadets all graduated from their perspective programs

Basic Program

Briana Costantini – Winner of marching drill competition

Oliver Peters

Ezgi Erken

Nathan Turner

All of the Basic Program Cadets had a cumulative academic score earning them 1st place

Advanced Program

Joseph Tivadar

Emma Gorton – 3rd place in crime scene investigations competition
Elizabeth Stegeman – 1st Place in female agility competition

Practical Skills Program

Ian Maloney – Squad Leader
Christina Garrity – 3rd Place best overall female
Tyler McCarthy

Cadet Police Department

Jenna Racz
Alli Bachman
Emily Grilley

Career Development

Andres Ramos
Andres Ruiz
Ryan Gorton

Chairman Testani commented that the representation of the Explorer program is quite impressive to him and the other police commissioners.

First Selectman Herbst arrived meeting at 6:44 p.m. in which a motion was made to move Item 7 – New Business – Swearing-In of Detective Promotion – Daniel Wheeler. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamarly. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Chief Lombardo welcomed everyone to the swearing-in of Daniel Wheeler to the rank of Detective. Officer Wheeler took a written test and oral board and ranked first on the promotional list. Officer Wheeler has been with the department since August of 2005, he attended Southern Connecticut State University. He is married to his wife Heather with a daughter, Adison. In 2006 Officer Wheeler received a lifesaving award; he is a department Field Training Officer and a graduate of the Fairfield County Detective School. Chief Lombardo thanked all the officers that are present to congratulate Officer Wheeler and his family.

First Selectman Herbst indicated it is an honored to be swearing-in of existing officers and new officers. First Selectman Herbst administered the Detective Oath to Daniel Wheeler.

First Selectman Herbst congratulated Detective Wheeler and left at 6:51 p.m. as he had to attend another meeting.

Chief's Report

Chief Lombardo indicated that the Calls-for-Service report for the month of September shows all the different types of calls and indicated there were 1,610 calls. The following monthly report for the month of September shows the times, types of calls and the total number of calls

per month and year-to-date. The next report showed the different type of Motor Vehicle Enforcements: 71 MV Warning, 4 DUI Arrests, 18 MV Complaints, 105 MV Arrests (tickets) and 198 MV. The Criminal Incidents Report for the month of September is broken down in the types of criminal activities: Larceny, Vandalism, MV Theft/Attempt, Burglary/Attempt, Assault, Robberies, Domestic Violence and Criminal total.

Chief Lombardo mentioned the Arrest Summary Report and indicated there were 50 arrests for the month of September.

Traffic Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Traffic Report and indicated there were 38 cases for the month of September. Officer Thompson handled 23 cases and Officer Richard handled 15 cases for the month of September. The report also showed the following:

Assist Fairfield PD

Case 15-13811. Off. Richard responded to Fairfield PD to assist with an overweight truck inspection. Driver was cited for over \$2,000 in fines.

Fall festival

Trumbull PD Traffic Officers Richard Thompson maintained traffic flow and parking lot security for the Trumbull Fall Festival

DUI Arrest

Trumbull PD Traffic Officer Thompson was running radar in front Daniels Farm School. During a traffic stop, he made a DUI arrest in a school zone.

New reflective "Stop Sign Ahead" signs were installed on Strobel Road near Pinewood Trail.

Supplemental Information

The 2014/2015 DUI Enforcement Grant began on November 21, 2014 and will continue through September 7, 2015. During September 1-6, 2015, 70 citations were issued during 6 DUI details. 4 Written Warnings were issued. No DUI arrests were made.

Chairman Testani asked for an update on the Speed Trailer location. Chief Lombardo mentioned that Deputy Chief Kirby approached him about using one of the marked police cars that is no use to the department and be placed at different locations throughout town to deter people from speeding.

Deputy Chief Kirby indicated that in the beginning of September the speed trailer was located on Madison Avenue and Booth Hill Road. The speed trailer has also been placed on Chestnut Hill Road and will be placed back on the lower end of Booth Hill Road.

Chairman Testani mentioned that at the end of the school year there were some concerns about cars passing school buses when the lights were activated. DEPUTY CHIEF Kirby responded that number of citations has decreased from last year. There are several buses in

town that have the Redflex video and the videos that have been submitted did not show the need to issue citations.

Training

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Training Report which showed several training courses for the month of September. The firearms training involved the entire department and is normally done annually, the department is looking to do the firearms training twice a year. Due to the indoor range being closed temporarily due to the ventilation the outdoor range is being used frequently. Other training that occurred in September where; National Traffic Incident Manager, Mandatory Police Training on Legal Updates, Motorcycle In-Service Training, High Impact Supervision. Some of the Community Policing that occurred were Blues Mass in Stamford, POSTC Recruit Jimenez graduation, Project Spirit Safety Talk, TPAUD Coalition meeting, Police Car Ride to school, Pequannock Valley Response drill and Take Back Drug Day.

Cadet Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Cadet Activity Report which showed assisting several events such as; Trumbull Fall Festival, Jewish Holiday (assist with parking), Old Navy Child Safety day, Take Back Drug Day and the THS Marching Band Fall Classic.

Sick/Injury Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Sick/Injury report; he indicated that one of the officers that were out on long term illness is back.

Detective Bureau Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Bureau report for the month of September, the department closed 74 cases and 14 cases remained open for the month of September which brings them to 59 cases still open.

EMS Report

Chief Laucella reviewed the EMS Report; he thanked the police department for working great together as there was another NARCAN save on a drug overdose. Chief Laucella also thanked Officer Fedor for assisting with the EMT/EMR training. There were a total of 366 medical calls for the month of September which in an increase of about 14% from last year. Overall EMS is up 6% in total call volume. The new Memory Care Facility has opened up which might encounter some calls to EMS. Another facility on 5520 Park Avenue is expected to open in March 2016 which might encounter more call volume. EMS has seen a 21% increase in revenue from 2014 which insurances reimburse calls for service. Chairman Testani asked what the dollar figure is. Chief Laucella responded as of July 1st they have deposited \$431,000 compared to 2014 in which they deposited \$340,000. EMS provided CPR training to the Daniels Farm Elementary School staff as well as for the Trumbull Senior Center staff. TEMS was invited and had a recruitment table at the Sacred Heart University Volunteer Fair. This gave the organization the opportunity to recruit students who have been recently certified as EMT's. The university ran a class last semester and has a number of certified students who have expressed interest in volunteering with TEMS.

Commissioner Zamary asked what the response time is for the medical calls. Chief Laucella reported the response time for calls is 7.2 minutes.

Chief Lombardo complimented Chief Laucella and his staff as they work well with the police department. Especially with the drug overdose calls and the administration of NARCAN.

Commissioner Testani mentioned the TPAUD forum that took place for parent and students at Trumbull High School. Chief Lombardo indicated that the forum was geared towards the 9th graders. Guest speakers attended the forum to share with the students and parents about their experience with underage drinking.

Unfinished Business

Chief Lombardo reported that the police substation is almost complete. They are still waiting for the lease and for the exterior door to be installed.

Deputy Chief Byrnes indicated as Chief Lombardo mentioned the last piece that they are waiting to complete the police substation is the exterior door and the emblems to the door. Deputy Chief Byrnes believes within the next couple of weeks a date will be decided for the grand opening of the police substation.

Deputy Chief Byrnes provided another update on the Police Headquarters renovation project and provided some pictures. The project is moving along and furniture will be installed along with some other technical items. There will also be some upgrades and improvements throughout the building which will be taken care of within the next few years. Discussion was made to hold the November 10th Police Commission at Police Headquarters for a tour of the renovation project.

Deputy Chief Byrnes also provided an update on the cell tower which continues to run along with the renovations and the antenna sites that he has mentioned in the past has turned into a project of its own including the police headquarter antenna. The only concern now is the need to move some utility lines that run directly under the location of the proposed tower site. All the interested parties are meeting on how to proceed.

Commissioner Portanova asked for an update on the letter from Trumbull resident regarding sign where Porters Hill Road and Whitney Avenue meet.

Chief Lombardo indicated that he will have the traffic division is looking into this.

Commissioner Portanova also asked for an update on the rails to trail crossing.

Chief Lombardo indicated that the department has been in contact with the Engineering Department. Chief Lombardo would like have a sign which will flash when cars are approaching the area and are exceeding the speed limit.

Deputy Chief Kirby explained that the Department of Public Works will be doing some work with the trimming of the trees for visibility and repainting of the cross walk.

Deputy Chief Savarese reported that he is working with Human Resources on the advertisement of a lateral move position for officers and an entry level position. There are currently two openings in the department. Deputy Chief Savarese reported that the entry level position will be advertised at the end of the week.

The department has one less dispatcher the advertisement for this position has been posted and has been closed. Human Resources should be sending the list of the applicants by the end of the week to the Chief.

Commissioner Zamaro asked about the Body Cameras for the department. Chief Lombardo informed Commissioner Zamaro that 19 Body Cameras have been ordered and should be on the field in January 2016. The department borrowed one of the Body Cameras from North Haven Police Department to test the camera.

Chief Lombardo reported that they have selected a candidate for the Mechanic position, they would like to make him an offer, and he is just waiting to hear back from Human Resources as they are looking to have the mechanic be part of a different barning unit.

There being no further business to discuss, and upon motion made by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Liggins, the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission