



Town of Trumbull

TRUMBULL POLICE COMMISSION

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POLICE COMMISSION

ROGER MCGOVERN, CHAIRMAN
ALBERT ZAMARY, VICE CHAIRMAN
ANGELO MAGLIOCCO, COMMISSIONER
DANIEL PORTANOVA, COMMISSIONER
JOHN VAZZANO, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Trumbull Police Department
February 9, 2016

MINUTES

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

Members present: Roger McGovern, Chairman
Angelo Magliocco
Daniel Portanova
Albert Zamary

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Ronald Kirby
Deputy Chief Thomas Savarese
First Selectman Timothy Herbst

Public Comments

The Chair opened Public Comment at 7:24 p.m.

There were no public comments Chairman McGovern closed the Public Comment at 7:25 p.m.

Chairman McGovern asked to discuss the SRO (School Resource Officer) for the budget. Chairman McGovern asked if there are any questions from the commissioners and First Selectman Herbst is present to help with the appointment of three (3) SROs for the new 2016-2017 budget.

Chief Lombardo explained that three (3) additional officers have been budgeted for the new fiscal year 2016-2017. The purpose of adding those three (3) officers is to place three (3) present police officers in the schools, one at High School and one at each middle school as the School Resource Officers. One of the goals for Chief Lombardo along with FS Herbst is to have SROs not to act as only security guards but to be integrated with the faculty, the students and get to know the students and work with them. It would also be another trusting relationship the students could have with the SRO regarding any type of crises or situation. There are many schools in the Fairfield County that have SROs. There are a very few that do not have any SROs in the State of Connecticut. Chief Lombardo and FS Herbst feel very strongly which has been

budgeted for and hope to move forward with the program in the next fiscal year. The schools currently have security guards, in which they are doing a great job but the Chief would like to have someone to become a fabric to the community and teach classes on health, drugs and alcohol as there is an epidemic in the country about Heroin. The other goal is to talk to the students sooner about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Commissioner Portanova if the officers for the SROs have been selected. Chief Lombardo indicated that at the time there are none.

Chairman McGovern asked if the position would need to be posted or will the department hire from the outside.

Chief Lombardo responded that they will not hire from the outside. The three (3) officers selected will be within the department. Those officers need to already be trained as they will work independently and they need to be able to handle different types of situations. Chief Lombardo indicated that a posting has already been done asking who is interested in the SRO position and then he will make a selection. This position is not a promotion this is an assignment selected by the Chief. The SROs will work under the supervision of the Chief of Police; they work for the Trumbull Police Department.

Once the three (3) SROs are selected, the department will need to fill those three (3) positions.

First Selectman Herbst indicated to the Police Commission that at the Board of Finance meeting scheduled for February 10th he will recommend that the Trumbull Police Department receive a very substantial increase in the departments operating budget to cover the SROs and the additional officers. FS Herbst knows the commission will be working hard on the promotions. FS Herbst indicated that he has had extensive conversations with the Finance Director about how to better utilize the Special Detail Account as there have been a lot of conversations in the past couple of years and he thinks there is over \$800,000 in the Special Detail Account. The last thing the FS would like is for that money to just accrue without identifying priorities that are important to the department. FS indicated that vehicle replacement program, similar to what Chief Lombardo did in Wilton he is going to use that account to get the Fleet up to speed. Once that is done, a certain portion from the Special Detail Account will offset expenditure increases and by doing that it will help keep up with things and project the amount of revenue coming in so that you don't spend more money then what is coming in.

A motion was made to approve three (3) SRO positions for the Trumbull Police Department. Motion made first by Commissioner Magliocco, seconded by Commissioner Vazzano. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Chief Lombardo provided a copy of the proposed 2016-2017 Trumbull Police Budget.

FS Herbst congratulated the newly appointed commissioners and the re appointed.

FS Herbst reported that in the 2016-2017 budget, Jim Haselkamp, Labor Relations Director has been working with the Director Finance with the conversion of the health insurance in which the town would go into a State Health Care Plan. FS Herbst indicated that the town has reach out to the leaders of the collective bargaining units on a proactive basis to address any concerns they

might have. Leaders of the Police Union have been in those meetings as well and the meetings have been productive. FS Herbst is anticipating an estimated savings between the town and the Board of Education of \$3.6 million dollars. One of the things that the town will continue to do is a disruptive analysis to make sure that all questions answered and all concerns addressed. With the reduction of health insurance cost will enable to give the police department a substantial increase in the budget this coming fiscal year, while lowering the mill rate and reducing taxes in the 2016-2017 budget. FS Herbst mentioned that he spoke with Chief Lombardo about the capital needs of the building which are a huge priority to the First Selectman's administration. The Communications Center has been addressed but the town would like to address the locker room at the police department which is long overdue. FS Herbst mentioned if anyone has any questions or concerns, FS has an open door.

Commissioner Portanova asked about the \$3.6 million saving on the health insurance, is that all across the board, is that for all town employees or specifically for just the police department? FS Herbst responded that it is \$600,000 for the town including the police department and \$3 million for the Board of Education. What the FS did to apply an abundance of caution he did not factor all of those saving into the budget because as you know health care can fluctuate. FS Herbst mentioned that this is a good health insurance plan. He mentioned that the governors, judges and members of legislature are on this health insurance. There are lower copays and the town has seen better coverage in certain respects. A couple of years ago the town had looked into this health insurance but it was conducive but the legislative has tweaked the health plan and based upon with what they saw and how it was analyzed the town is confident that this is a good plan.

It was asked if the plan is a yearly renewal contract. FS Herbst indicated that under the law, there are penalty provisions if you opt out in year one or year two and in year three there is no penalty. FS Herbst believes in year one the penalty is \$800,000, in year two the penalty is \$200,000 and there is no penalty in year three. The new insurance would begin July 1, 2016. FS Herbst mentioned that he wanted to do this early enough in the budget process to give it time with the new leadership to discuss the plan and have an open session and any member of any collective bargaining can come in ask any questions they have. FS Herbst indicated he did not want this to be rushed. FS Selectman indicated that everyone in the town will be part of the insurance.

Approval of the January 7, 2016 Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2016 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Magliocco. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the November 10, 2015 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2015 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Zarmy. There was no further discussion. MOTION CARRIED WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS Commissioners Vazzano and Magliocco.

Correspondence

Chief Lombardo reported that Officer Massa while off-duty she rendered medical assistance to a 91 year old female who was choking.

Sgt. Falkenstein received an email of appreciation from Eva Elinskas for all the officers who assisted in locating her mother. Sgt. Falkenstein provided her information on the Project Lifesaver program that has been implemented and has been advertised. It is a bracelet that is provided to people who have autism or Alzheimer's to help located the person should they go missing. Several of the officers in the department have been trained.

Letter from Assistant Chief Mulligan thanking Officers Richard and Thompson as they provided accident reconstruction training to the members of the Trumbull Volunteer Fire Company No. 1.

Letters to the Trumbull Police Honor Guards, Chief Lombardo thanked them them for their presence at the swearing in ceremony for First Selectman Herbst.

Letter from St. Catherine of Siena thanking the police department for the police car ride donation for their Golf Classic Raffle.

Chief's Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls-for-Service report for the month of January 2016 and December 2105 which shows the different types of calls. There were a total of 1,472 calls for service for the month of January and a total of 1,577 calls for the month of December 2015. The Alarm response summary showed the total for the month of January, 167 Alarms. In 2015 the department received 287 MV Complaints from residents which entail, people passing school buses, speeding or going through stop signs.

Chief Lombardo mentioned the Arrest Summary Report and indicated there were 52 arrests for the month of January. Chief Lombardo report that the Police Substation is being used by the officers. Chief Lombardo informed the commission that the department will be hosting a Public Safety Day on April 30 at the Westfield Shopping Center.

Traffic Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Traffic Report and indicated there were 98 cases for the month of December 2015. Officer Thompson handled 42 cases and Officer Richard handled 56 cases for the month of December. The report also showed the following:

Off. Thompson conducted a traffic stop and during his investigation recovered 3.5 grams of Marijuana and a small amount of LSD along with Drug Paraphernalia.

Off. Richard assisted Bridgeport PD with a serious accident. He helped map the scene.

The 2015 DUI Enforcement Grant began on November 2015. During December 2015, 158 citations were issued, 13 DUI details, 31 Written Warnings were issued, 2 DUI arrests were made and 3 Drug Arrests were made.

Chief Lombardo also reviewed the Traffic Report and indicated there were 27 cases for the month of January 2016. Officer Thompson handled 03 cases and Officer Richard handled 24 cases for the month of January. The report also showed the following:

Traffic Complaint

Off. Thompson conducted a traffic study related to a new construction project at Christian Heritage School. He reviewed a request for additional crosswalks.

Traffic Complaint

Off. Richard looked into a request for signs related to Connecticut's Three Foot Law. This relates to moving over a safe distance for cyclists. Chief Lombardo reported that a cyclist group contacted the department and asked to have the signs posted throughout the town. The recommendation from the Traffic Division was not to place the signs and they provided multiple reasons why, it would be difficult to enforce and if the officer witnesses, how it is determined if it was the car that did not move over or if it was the bicyclist, it would be hard to prove. Also the signage that is used is not recognized by any traffic organization. Chief Lombardo recommends that this time to hold off on the signage.

12 Car Seats were installed in January 2016

The 2015 DUI Enforcement Grant began on November 2015. During January 2016, 21 citations were issued during 1 DUI detail. 7 Written Warnings were issued. 0 DUI arrests were made.

Training

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Training Report which showed several training courses for the month of January. The officers attended Collect/NCIC Re-Certification, Evidence and Property Room Management Course, ERT Training, ERT Training, Dive Team Training and Fair and Impartial Policing. The officers also assisted several events such as; Officer Borucki's Benefit Dinner, LHFD Tactical Tourniquet Training, TPAUD Coalition meeting, Drug Prevention Task Force and TPAUD Community Forum & Information.

Cadet Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Cadet Activity Report which showed the various events they attend in the month of December 2015 and January 2016: Town Official Swearing In Ceremony, TSP Toy Drive, Police Cadet Banquet, Cadet Rank Meeting, Meetings – Admin Rules & Regulations and Use of Force.

Sick/Injury Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Sick/Injury report. There is one officer that has been out on long term sick leave. Chief Lombardo asked if there were any questions. Chairman McGovern asked if the officer that is out on long term sick leave has reached his 20 years with the department. Chief Lombardo responded yes he has. Chairman McGovern asked if the officer is eligible for pension and health benefits. Chief Lombardo responded that the officer is eligible for what the contract calls for. First Selectman Herbst asked, generally what is the year to date total that would raise a flag on an officer being out sick. Chief Lombardo indicated that the officer would have to be 20% more than the average person. Sgt. Falkenstein always looks at the sick time and an officer is required to provide a doctor's note should he/she be out three (3) days in a row. Sgt. Falkenstein looks to see if there is a pattern of sick time that might be abusive sick time. Should a shift supervisor notice anything out of the ordinary with sick time, the officer is brought in and is spoken to. Commissioner Magliocco asked on an average month, how many days do the officers work? Chief Lombardo indicated it depends on their schedule. DC Byrnes indicated the officer works 18 days out of 28 days. Chief Lombardo indicated that the average

sick time per officer is 10 days per year but if you remove the officers that are out on long time illnesses the average sick time per officer is 5 days per year.

Dillon Haviland of Southern University asked when the SRO's will be in place at the public schools. Chief Lombardo responded that it will be based on when new officers are hired and when budget is approval. Mr. Haviland asked if the SROs would be for Trumbull High School. Chief Lombardo responded that yes it will be and also be for Hillcrest Middle School and Madison Middle School. The Board of Finance and Town Council need to approve the funds as well.

Detective Bureau Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Bureau report for the month of December; the department had 60 new cases and closed 42 cases. In January, the department had 100 new cases and closed 78 cases, and 21 cases remained open which brings them to 62 cases open for the month of January. A large amount of the cases are fingerprinting for pistol permits along with job. The Chief mentioned he receives about 8 pistol permits a week to approve and it is steady. Chairman McGovern asked if anyone in contact with children need to be fingerprinted correct. Chief Lombardo responded that is correct.

EMS Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the EMS Report; he reported for 2015 EMS had approximately 4,100 medical calls. Chief Laucella indicated that the final medical calls for 2015 were 4,300.

FS Herbst thanked the police department, EMS and the fire department for their outstanding, quick and immediate response when Town Clerk Suzanne Monaco and her husband where in a car accident. FS Herbst knows that Mr. & Mrs. Monaco appreciated all their efforts.

Commissioner Zamarly asked what the response time for medical calls is. Chief Laucella indicated that the response time is about 7.2 minutes. Chief Laucella is currently working on a proposal for next fiscal year to add an additional 48 hour staff which will help during the day time hours. Currently on Mondays there are three (3) ambulances during peak volume. Chief Laucella is hoping in the future they can have coverage Tuesday – Friday as well.

Unfinished Business

None.

Chief Lombardo reported that the two (2) K-9 dogs will be graduating from the Narcotics Training. Chief Lombardo reported that both K-9 made separate stops and they both detected drugs in the car.

Commissioner Magliocco asked if the K-9 dogs will be used at Trumbull High School. Chief Lombardo mentioned that he has spoken to the Superintendent and the Chief is working on it.

Commissioner Zamarly asked about the body cameras. Chief Lombardo indicated that the body cameras have arrived but are not in use yet for several reasons, one of them being IT related, along with the new cars arriving they need to be set up and there is also some issues with the State Policy.

Commissioner Zamary if all the new cars have arrived. DC Savarese indicated that the department is waiting for two (2) more cars to come in and one (1) that is being replaced due to the car accident.

New Business

Chief Lombardo mentioned the approval of time period for entry level list. Chief would like to recommend for the list to be good for 18 months to 2 years. Chief Lombardo mentioned that the entry level posting has been advertised and that they will be accepting up to 150 applicants, after that number, no other applications will be accepted. The test will be given sometime in April and the top applicants will be selected and the Police Commission will interview the candidates. Currently there are two (2) vacancies in the department. .

Chief Lombardo mentioned that there is one applicant that is still in the running for the certified officer. He indicated that everything is looking good with the applicant and the police commissioners will be interviewing the applicant.

A motion was made to keep the list until it is exhausted from the 150 applicants. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Magliocco. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Magliocco asked if Chief Lombardo would explain the budget request for the police department. Chief Lombardo explained that the department is requesting three (3) new police officers, additional training funds, and six (6) police cars.

Commissioner Portanova requested through Chairman McGovern to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made at 8:21 p.m. by Commissioner Portanova to enter into Executive Session. Present in Executive Session, Commissioners McGovern, Portanova, Zamary, Magliocco and Vazzano, also present, FS Herbst, Chief Lombardo, DC Byrnes, DC Kirby, DC Savarese and Vivian Munoz. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Magliocco. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. Motion made first by Commissioner Portanova, seconded by Commissioner Magliocco. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, and upon motion made by Chairman Vazzano, seconded by Commissioner Magliocco, the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission