



Town of Trumbull

TRUMBULL POLICE COMMISSION

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POLICE COMMISSION

RAYMOND G. BALDWIN, JR., CHAIRMAN
ANGELO MAGLIOCCO, VICE CHAIRMAN
MARY BETH THORNTON, COMMISSIONER
CHRIS TREFZ, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting September 13, 2022 MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the recitation of the pledge and moment of silence.

Members present: Raymond G. Baldwin, Jr., Chairman
Angelo Magliocco, Vice Chairman
Mary Beth Thornton, Commissioner
Chris Trefz, Commissioner

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Assistant Chief Glenn Byrnes

Public Comment

Public Comment opened at 6:01 p.m.

Jean Gibbs, 26 Lafayette Drive, as a Trumbull resident said she came to voice her support for the Police Department and was generally concerned about the conditions concerning staffing shortages and other problems facing the police. She asked a variety of questions related to personnel and staffing.

Chief Lombardo responded that the biggest challenge at the moment is retention of police officers. The recruitment of police officers throughout the country, it is a very difficult time, for any police department. One of the things that has been more challenging for Trumbull Police Department and some other police departments is the lack of a defined benefit plan. New officers hired after July 2014 have a 401a pension plan as opposed to officers hired before that date, who have a defined benefit plan. When the officer retires they collect a specific amount for the rest of their lives. Should the retiree pass away, the surviving spouse receives 50% of that pension. The officers who have a 401a pension plan receive a 10% match from the town that the officer matches based on their salary. Naturally with any defined contribution plan the Department has found

that officers that have left the Department over the last few years is that there is more risk in having a defined contribution plan as opposed to a defined benefit plan. Last year the department lost quite a few junior officers that went to other police departments that have a defined benefit plan. It has been a struggle. Chief Lombardo along with AC Byrnes talk about this issue just about every day. Chief Lombardo also speaks with First Selectman Tesoro. There is going to be a study done on what the cost would be to return to a defined benefit plan.

Chief Lombardo indicated Patrol is the largest Division within the Department, it runs 24 hours, 7 days a week, and needs to be filled with the minimum amount of officers. Some of the specialty units have been reduced, as patrol needs to be filled properly. There is a minimum of five patrol officers per shift along with a supervisor.

Chief Lombardo indicated that 2 of the 3 SROs are not in the schools. However, the officers who are assigned in the school sectors regularly check the schools and talk to the administrators. Schools are still a primary concern to the Department. Chief Lombardo indicated about a year ago the Department started a grant-funded program for an officer to be assigned at the mall full-time. That officer has been reassigned back to Patrol. There are other officers who patrol that area, it is just not one specific officer.

There was no further Public Comment. Public Comment was closed at 6:11 p.m.

Approval of the August 16, 2022 Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Thornton to accept the Special Police Commission Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Magliocco. There was no further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report

Correspondence

Email from Trumbull Resident and a Sergeant at the Greenwich Police Department. He thanked Officer Weston Bartosik and Recruit Andrew Goldstein as they responded to medical call at his home. The officers provided comfort and reassurance to the family and took the time to speak with the Sergeant that his family were in good hands.

Thank you letter from Debra Greenwood, CEO from the Center for Family Justice for the Departments support during their 2022 Summer Food & Diaper Drive. The Department's lobby was one of the drop off locations.

Memo to SRO Duva regarding his renewed assignment at Trumbull High School as the SRO for the 2022-2023 school year.

Memo from Lieutenant Kenneth Jones (he oversees the Field Training Program) regarding Officer Raul Pereira who was a lateral transfer from the New Haven Police Department who has successfully completed his Field Training Program.

Operations

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls for Service Report for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Motor Vehicle Enforcement Report for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Criminal Incidents Report for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Incident Statistics Report for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the report from SRO Duva for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the K-9 Reports from K-9 G. Lee and K-9 Carlson for the month of August.

Chief Lombardo reported for the month of August, there were no juvenile referrals.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Arrest Summary Report for Adults for the month of August.

Traffic Division

Chief Lombardo reviewed Officer Kyle Siljamaki's Traffic Report for the month of August. Officer Siljamaki attends the Technology Lab in Weston as he works with officers within the region. They work on anything strictly involving crimes pertaining to the internet or computer related.

Detective Division Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Division Monthly Activity report provided for the month of August.

Training Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Training Monthly Activity report for the month of August.

Cadet Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Cadet Report for the month of August.

Sick/Injury Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the sick/injury report for the department for the month of August. Chief Lombardo brought to the Commission's attention there was a significant decrease for the month.

Budget

Chief Lombardo indicated the Department's overtime account is above the average due to the staff shortage. Chief Lombardo asked if there were any questions. There were none.

New Business

ARPA Funding Request

Chief Lombardo shared the Town of Trumbull received \$5.4 M from the American Recovery Act. The First Selectman ask the Department heads to prepare a list of what they would like to request for their departments. The funds are limited, and cannot be used for just anything. It will not be used for personnel or funding pensions. Chief Lombardo and AC Byrnes met and went through things the Department really needs and will need to budget for. On the list is upgrade for the Body Worn Cameras, cost is \$100,000. The current Body Worn Cameras are an older model and they are failing and the Department can't have that. Approximately 70 to 75 Body Worn Cameras can be bought and ultimately each officer will have their own. Currently the officers share the Body Worn Cameras. The other item that was requested was the Traffic Monitoring System, which the Department wants that to continue to expand. The Traffic Monitoring System is runs out of the Bridgeport Fusion Center. It has been very helpful to recover stolen vehicles and vehicles used during crimes.

AC Byrnes indicated the Department feels it is an important program that is based on traffic enforcement. Focusing on wanted and stolen vehicles and it is related to every crime not only monitoring traffic.

Chairman Baldwin asked if the Board of Finance approved the requests.

Chief Lombardo responded that, it has not gone before Board of Finance. The first step in this process was the First Selectman called a combined meeting with the Board of Finance and Town Council, which was held on September 1, 2022 in which they proposed what they had requested to the FS. The next meeting is being held on October 27, 2022. Chief Lombardo's understanding is the meeting is not a voting meeting. It is more of a public comment meeting. In November there will be a voting meeting.

Old Business

Update on Police Pension Consideration

Chairman Baldwin shared as the Commission is aware the RFP was approved. It was submitted and advertised. They are not waiting for the report on the cost.

Chief Lombardo reported he was very pleased it was advertised and is looking forward to moving forward with this process.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Trefz, seconded by Commissioner Thornton to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission