

MINUTES
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
January 9, 2017

PRESENT: Chairman Peter Niles, Commissioners Phil Sengle, Ed Tessman, June Hansen

Absent: Kim Simoncini

Also present: Chief DeMaio

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

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by E. Tessman to move Traffic Authority: Uncas Road and Commerce Street issues under Commission Awareness. The motion carried unanimously.

Commission Awareness:

Traffic Authority:

- Uncas Road: Harbor View Association President W. Grimes presented their request for the installation of two (2) stop signs at East and Center Road cross streets. He explained that Uncas Road is a long road serving approximately 200 homes, has on street parking (especially during the summer months), and children and adult pedestrians which is a safety issue. Presently there are no stop signs except on West Road. Other options were discussed such as the Association purchasing radar signs, traffic calming striping measures, temporary speed bumps, add another set of stop signs at Center Road and Uncas Road and reduce the speed limit from 25 MPH to 20 MPH. A traffic engineer and the Department of Public Works need to review and evaluate the need for these proposed items prior to work being done. A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by J. Hansen to approve the installation of the two (2) stop signs at East Road and Center Road as indicated in the diagram dated January 9, 2017. The motion carried unanimously. Once the stop signs are in place, the radar trailer will be set out to collect data for evaluation.
- Commerce Street: Supernumerary J. Santry proposed converting Commerce Street, south of Shell Road to one way (northbound) traffic, hence creating 12-15 additional parking spaces in the southbound lane beginning Memorial Day weekend. This modification would eliminate some of the traffic/parking issues in this shoreline eatery destination. The Department of Public Works will have to be involved in this discussion and signage (One Way, 2 Hour Parking Only and No Overnight Parking) would have to be purchased and posted. This modification can be assessed at the end of the 2017 to determine if it was beneficial and should become a permanent solution. Chief DeMaio recommended that a traffic study be conducted, traffic data collected and a discussion be had with the Department of Public Works.

Comments from the Public:

- D. Morelli reported today two police officers lost their lives in Orlando, FL
- P. Sengle presented a response to comments made by C. Walter at the December 12, 2016 Board of Police Commission meeting and ended with an apology for his mistake in protocol when hiring T. Terribile as interim Police Chief in 2015.
- C. Walter responded stating the Charter tells the Board of Police Commissioners Chairman what he had to do when hiring an interim Police Chief. The Board of Police Commissioners answers to the Board of Selectmen.
- J. Olsen asked that there be more respect, decorum, run meetings as they should be run and conduct ourselves to be adversaries not enemies. Everyone is doing their jobs for the betterment of the town.
- D. Morelli stated that when the Chief retires, the Deputy Chief should be put in charge so he can be evaluated to possibly become the next Chief.
- C. Walter apologized for the climate in which Chief DeMaio had to start his career in Clinton. She then discussed previous breaches in protocol.
- D. Mill reiterated the history of Deputy Chief Carbone's change in rank.

- Chief DeMaio stated we should all take J. Olsen's advice and move on, treating each other with respect.

Correspondence:

The correspondence received for the month of December is as follows:

- Thank you to Officer O'Brien from the Kuczma family, Cannelli family, Colson family and D. Ciminera
- Thank you to department from Shirelee Anthony
- Thank you Officer Cairns and Dispatcher Catalano from Greg Young

Minutes:

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by P. Sengle to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners meeting of December 12, 2016 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by J. Hansen, seconded by E. Tessman to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Police Commissioners meeting of December 16, 2016 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Review of monthly bills:

A report of the monthly bills was not compiled for December. Commissioners can meet with Finance Director J. Murphy to discuss any bills in question or obtain additional information.

Chief's Report:

FY 2017-2018 Police Department budget:

- Chief DeMaio and P. Niles met with First Selectman B. Farmer and J. Murphy as the first step in the budget review process
- The 2017-2018 budget was submitted with a 2.16% reduction
- The salary line item shows a reduction even with the proposed reorganization
- The uniform expense line item was increased by \$6,000 to include the required uniforms for a new recruit
- The education/training/travel line item was increased by \$4,300 due to the increased amount of training each supervisor will be required to attend
- Service Contracts increased by \$5,403 due to the shift from Law Enforcement Council (LEC) to Southern Connecticut Chief of Police (SCCoP). Also included in this increase is the addition of Power DMS (Document Management Software) and PIN (patrol information network)
- Question was asked about the canine program still included in the budget. There is a viable need for this program and funds are being solicited (\$10,000 goal) to revive the program. There will still be a small cost to the town for the continuation of the program.
- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by E. Tessman to approve the 2017-2018 budget as presented by Chief DeMaio. The motion carried unanimously.

FY 2017-2018 Communications budget:

- Equipment line item shows an increase of \$3,400 to enable the department to purchase 24/7 dispatcher chairs and a normal size refrigerator
- The share agreement with Madison for the Ridge Road tower is still a work in progress. Once signed there should be a \$10,000 savings in the Building Service Contracts

FY 2017-2018 Municipal Animal Control Officer (MACO)

- The training line item was increased by \$1,200 as all MACO officers (full and part time) need to be trained and certified
- Interviews will begin soon to hire another part time MACO officer

State of the Department:

STATE of the DEPARTMENT – December 2016

1. DARE
 - a. Officers Mangs and Corbin have finalized curriculum with School Administration.
 - b. DARE classes to begin for 5th & 7th Grade students on January 9th.
 - c. \$1,000.00 donation received from the Lion's Club of Clinton.
 - d. Books purchased for students.

2. MyPD App
 - a. App is continually expanding our operational outreach capabilities.
 - b. Currently, we have over 1,250 likes to our Facebook page, which is used as our news and alerts information source.
 - c. Nearly all posts now reach over 1,000 people (5 posts with over 5,000 reached).

3. Investigations
 - a. Search warrant executed with Guilford Police Department and SNTF a Clinton residence suspected of selling heroin. Three arrests made.
 - b. Held meeting with area department's to share information developed by CPD concerning the criminal activities of the Starr Block gang responsible for multiple car thefts and break-ins. Arrest warrants have been completed.
 - c. Department of Homeland Security arrested an Illinois man of charge of production of child pornography and risk of injury to a minor based on a Clinton case where the suspect flew to Clinton and engaged in sexual activity with a 15 year old victim. (Press release by AUSA Daly).
 - d. The Department received over \$15,000.00 in asset forfeiture monies related to work of Officer Cairns on a joint operation with the Middletown Police Department. Currently awaiting the delivery of a 2013 Audi A4 as asset forfeiture from the same case.

4. Operational Improvements
 - a. Implementation of Police Information Network (PIN) software.
 - b. Software now being used by all personnel to increase access to patrol information.

5. Personnel
 - a. Mario Caruso currently at POSTC Academy. Expected graduation in March 2017. Grades to this point have been excellent.
 - b. All sworn and civilian personnel are back to work full duty as of 12/09.
 - c. Jose Molina began as full-time custodian as of 12/05. Town will hire part-time custodian to replace his former position.
 - d. Hiring process for part-time dispatchers was completed. Two new part-time dispatchers hired: Glenn Coffin & Kathryn Cazassa. Both began training the week of December 22nd. Both should be able to sit 2nd seat by February 1st and cover shifts independently beginning in March.
 - e. Hiring process for part-time MACO continuing, oral boards and selection slated for end of month.
 - f. Possibility of a supervisory or lead dispatch position to better manage the communications function.

6. Contracts & Vendors

- a. Union labor negotiations are continuing. Three meetings scheduled in January.
- b. We will begin using Monro Muffler in East Main St. for routine maintenance of fleet vehicles (oil changes, brakes, lights, etc.).

7. Continuing Initiatives

- a. Mentoring Program for at-risk youth – Clinton Family Services has provided \$4,674.00 towards program. Sgt. Sepega has 10 participants signed up for the program currently. Officers Torino and Mangs will be instructors in the program.
- b. Child Safety Seat Technicians – NHSTA training class scheduled in Waterford was cancelled. Will try and host training here in spring.
- c. Continuing to work with Clinton Crossing on establishment of sub-station on property. Early 2017.
- d. Grant money for joint D.U.I. Check-point with CSP utilized for New Year's Day on RTE 81.
- e. Technical Crimes Working Group to begin operations in January.
- f. Supervisory training continuing through FBI-LEEDA.

8. Community Outreach and Charities during the month:

- a. FHF Soup Cook-off - Harkins
- b. Meeting with Secret Service, Guilford Chief Hutchinson and Madison Chief Drumm on staffing, operations and protocols of TCU - DeMaio
- c. Meet with Old Saybrook Chief Spera & Madison Chief Drumm to discuss inter-agency cooperation - DeMaio
- d. Clinton Police Toy Drive – Dunn, Pellegrini, Strunjo, Torino, O'Brien, Clados, Mill, Deb Mill, Cairns, Capece, McDermott, Popovich, Flynn, Varone, Jakober, Cavanaugh, DeMaio
- e. \$2,760.00 presented to Families Helping Families – DeMaio, Dunn for all of CPD

9. Upcoming Events:

- a. Dancing with the Stars – February 24th.

Chief DeMaio gave an update of the exemplary work by officers on the on-going investigations to include

- The search warrants and the arrest of individuals selling heroin
- The car break ins and the 183 larceny charges
- Arrest of individual by Homeland Security with our assistance
- Receipt of \$15,000 in Asset Forfeiture funds from Middletown case

Old Business:

Command Reorganization:

- Currently the department is structured with one Chief, 6 Sergeants (5 in patrol and 1 in the Detective Bureau), 4 Corporals (3 in patrol and 1 in Detective Bureau), 15 patrol officers
- Proposing two (2) Division Commanders – Operations Division Commander and Support Services Commander
- Commanders' task lists have been developed detailing their duties
 - Some of these duties were reviewed and explained
- With the bar of professionalism being raised, three administrators are necessary
- The Chief develops the staff, implements policies and procedures, researches ways to best use our resources, continues to train officers to replace those officers upon their retirement

- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by E. Tessman to approve the restructure of the Department to include two (2) Division Commanders, five (5) Sergeants, four (4) Corporals and fifteen (15) patrol officers. The motion carried with a vote of 3 in favor and 1 opposed (J. Hansen)

New Business:

New Vehicle Lease Program:

- This proposed vehicle replacement program was presented to and approved by the Capital Expenditure Committee
- Currently the department uses a vehicle until the repairs become costly, these high maintenance costs are reflected in the repairs and maintenance line item of the department's operating budget
- There is presently no proper replacement for the equipment in the vehicle
- His recommendation is to go with a single source vendor – purchasing a vehicle already fitted with all the necessary equipment
- The fleet rotation schedule allows the department to budget annually for replacement cars with long term, fixed budgetary projections
- The rotation schedule also reduces the liability by insuring top performing emergency response vehicles
- Most maintenance issues would be covered under warranty and cars would be have fewer issues
- The top line cars (8 in patrol) would be the patrol vehicles, the older cars would be used for extra duty assignments
- Cars would be rotated on a 36/48 month rotation schedule
- Researching a lease to purchase program.
 - Finance Director J. Murphy is in favor of this method and has used this program to purchase equipment for the Department of Public Works
- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by E. Tessman to authorize Chief DeMaio to go forward with the vehicle rotation schedule and present it to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. The motion carried unanimously.

Canine Program:

- Chief DeMaio would like to reinstitute this program
- Currently start-up funds are being secured and it was noted there will still be a minor cost to the town as shown in the department's operating budget

Executive Session:

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by J. Hansen to move into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. with invited guest Chief DeMaio. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by P. Sengle to move out of Executive Session at 9:23 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by J. Hansen to approve fiscal year 2017-2018 salary increases of 3% for Chief DeMaio and 2.5% for Administrative Assistant Wendy McDermott. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by P. Sengle to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Administrative Assistant