

MINUTES
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
February 12, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Peter Niles, Commissioners Ed Tessman, Phil Sengle, Lynn Hidek and Dom Morelli

Also present: Chief DeMaio

Guests: Jane Scully Welch (Board of Finance liaison), Jack Scherban (Board of Selectmen liaison), Rob Derry

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Commission Awareness: Comments from the Public:

- Chief DeMaio thanked the Lions Club for their donation and continued support of the Narcan program
- P. Niles thanked Chief DeMaio for organizing the Chasing the Dragon program scheduled for February 15th

Traffic Authority:

Chamard Vineyard sponsored half marathon:

- The Board of Selectmen are in support of this event
- Chief DeMaio will develop an Operation Plan
- Will work with DPW Director P. Neff on signage

Pedestrian safety marking project:

- Areas of pedestrian crosswalk signage improvements will include, but not be limited to:
 - East and West sides of Liberty Green
 - Grove Street/Pratt Street
 - Commerce Street/Dan Vece Way
- Signage will be consistent with the existing signs

Citizen Request: Mount "25 mph" sign and "One Way" sign onto the new "Bike Route" sign:

- A motion was made by D. Morelli, seconded by L. Hidek to approve the mounting of the "25 mph" sign on the "Bike Route" stanchion on Liberty Street (east side of the green). The motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Request: Crosswalk placement at Route 1 and east side of Liberty Street:

- The Pedestrian safety marking project should address some of the concerns with this crosswalk
- Chief DeMaio will work with the state to relocate the existing crosswalk

Parking signs on Post Office Square:

- Currently the Parking Signs on Post Office Square state it is a 45-minute limit
- Suggested including "from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m." on the 45-minute limit sign
- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by L. Hidek to approve the change to the 45-minute limit parking signs on Post Office Square to include "from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.". The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- Thank you from First Selectman Goupil for the work during the January snow storm
- Thank you to Cpl DePietro and Officer Corbin from Eliot Principal Guarascio
- Thank you to Officer Harkins and Officer Popovich from N. Scarpace
- Thank you to Cpl Pellegrini and Officer Varone from Guilford Police Chief Hutchinson
- Thank you to Officer Torino and Officer Harkins from the Espositos

Correspondence: continued:

- Press Release from Guilford Police Department regarding “Operation Not In My Town”
- Reviewed and discussed the Guilford Police Chief’s thank you and press release
 - This operation showcased the Shoreline Technical Crimes Investigative Group (STCIG)

Minutes of January 8, 2018:

- A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by P. Sengle to approve the minutes of January 8, 2018 as submitted.
 - Discussion: D. Morelli asked that the minutes reflect comments and questions made by commissioners be reflected in the minutes
- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by D. Morelli to approve the minutes of January 8, 2018 amended to include “D. Morelli questioned Chief DeMaio about Officers’ overtime and the crosswalk at the Liberty Green.” The motion carried unanimously.

D. Morelli requested the Police Commissioners be notified when the Police Department will be having a public event.

Review of line item accounts:

- The Balance of Time Report was reviewed, noting only two officers are over the comp time threshold due to extenuating circumstances
- The budget line items were reviewed
 - Longevity will be adjusted at the end of the fiscal year
- SSgt Mill retired and will receive payment for owed sick and vacation days
- Communications Repairs and Maintenance line item is for service contracts and tower rentals

Chief’s Report:

State of the Department:

Budget:

- The Board of Selectmen reduced the Police overtime by \$17,076 and Communications overtime by \$10,000
- Go before the Board of Finance on February 20, 2018
- Ballistic vests and equipment/uniforms are provided/pay for by the town
- Chief DeMaio provided an overtime comparison which explained injuries, minimum staffing requirements and late call overtime which could be drivers for overtime
 - Discussed the town’s population, Clinton Crossings, and summer residents and how it impacts the department
 - Commissioner questioned about having a police presence at Clinton Crossings – only if it didn’t incur overtime
 - Questioned about having an overlapping shift – not sufficient manpower to handle that

K9 Program:

- Officer Frey and Sonny are assigned to the relief shift (2 day shifts/2 evening shifts) to maximize the patrol/tracking/narcotic detention/PR
- Sonny received his ballistic vest, donated in memory of FDNY Firefighter Christopher Blackwell, lost on 9/11/2011
- A full bite suit was donated

Investigations:

- Currently have 3 detectives who have a large case load (as noted by new case report)
- Need to find creative ways to do detective work
- Partner with Madison and other departments to share and work on bigger cases
- Madison recently purchased and outfitted a new crime scene van which we can use
 - We will dispose of our old crime scene van

Contracts & Vendors:

- Union is waiting to hear about the procedures and particulars regarding the HSA
 - The attorneys are working on this and will have the HSA representative speak to the union
- Dispatcher's contract expires June 30th of this year
 - Staffing and the open shifts need to be reviewed

Training:

- The Department has a confirmed seat in the FBI National Academy Session 274, October 2018
 - Background investigation will begin in April

Personnel:

- Officer Brymer is currently in week 7 of his Field Training and is doing well
- SSgt Mill retired January 30, 2018
- The hiring process for a lateral entry officer will be started
- D. Morelli expressed the need for a requirement for an officer to stay 5 years
 - Chief's job is to manage personnel retention and longevity
- Officer Popovich will be rotated out of the School Resource Officer position in June
 - Working with Superintendent O'Donnell and Principal Hagness
 - Interested officers will go before an interview panel on April 27, 2018, with training in June/July

Marine Patrol:

- Received an offer of \$24,400 for the Department's old boat
- Chief DeMaio is working with Government Capital to review various lease options
- We are working with Madison Police Department to patrol their shores and events in exchange for financial compensation

A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by L. Hidek to add Executive Session to discuss personnel matter as item 10a. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Promotional Testing:

- Dr. Sherwood will discuss the testing process to the 17 candidates on February 15th
- A draft of the Division Commander's contract was distributed for review
- This draft will be sent to G. Jiran, C. Goupil and finally the Board of Selectmen for approval
- The written test is slated for March 22 – all of the study/reading lists have been distributed
- The Assessment Centers are scheduled for March 26-March 28
- The Police Commissioners need to schedule their interviews
- Training slots for the First Line Supervisor course have been retained for April 9-April 13

NexGen Implementation:

- The system has gone live with very little push back from officers/employees
- The Fire Department had issues with the interface between NexGen and Firehouse software
- NexGen can analyze data, pull data as an investigative tool and streamline reporting
- There will be drastic decline in the case numbers assigned to incidents due to NexGen's tracking method
- Most CT Police Departments are using NexGen
- NexGen has all the CT forms included on their software

Executive Session:

A motion was made by D. Morelli, seconded by L. Hidek to move into Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. to discuss personnel issues inviting Chief DeMaio. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by E. Tessman, seconded by P. Sengle to move out of Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken.

A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by L. Hidek to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Administrative Assistant