



THOMAS H. KIELY  
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
TOWN OF TRUMBULL  
CONNECTICUT 06611

158 EDISON ROAD  
TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT 06611

P (203) 261-3665  
F (203) 452-5162

POLICE COMMISSION

JACK TESTANI, CHAIRMAN  
ANNA HENRY, VICE CHAIRMAN  
ROGER MCGOVERN, COMMISSIONER  
LINO COSTANTINI, COMMISSIONER  
PHILIP DIGENNARO, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting  
Long Hill Conference Room – Trumbull Town Hall  
Tuesday, July 10, 2012

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Members Present: Jack Testani, Chairman  
Philip DiGennaro  
Anna Henry  
Roger McGovern  
Albert Zamar

Also Present: Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes  
Lieutenant Ron Kirby

Absent: Lino Costantini  
Chief Thomas Kiely  
Deputy Chief Michael Harry

**Public Comments**

Opened at 7:10 pm.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comments at 7:11 pm.

**Approval of June 12 and June 19, 2012 Police Commission Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of June 12 and June 19, 2012.  
MOTION made (Commissioner Zamar), 2nd (Commissioner McGovern). There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Correspondence**

None.

### **Chief Kiely's Report**

In Chief Kiely's absence, Deputy Chief Byrnes provided the Police Commission with all the pertinent information for the Chief's report.

### **Deputy Chief Byrnes' report**

#### **Patrol Division**

In June the Call List was over 1,300 calls for Patrol. Burglar Alarms 208 calls, YTD through the end of June there were almost 1,200, an average of 7 calls a day. Chief Kiely did present the Alarm Abatement Ordinance to the Town Council. After some discussion there were some points in the proposal that needed further explanation and refinement. They have decided to send the ordinance back to the committee for further review. Commissioner Testani commented that he was at the Town Council meeting and he indicated that it is just a matter for refining the verbiage. It was obvious to Commissioner Testani that the Town Council wants to approve the Alarm Abatement Ordinance. Commissioner Testani asked if Deputy Chief Byrnes would check with the Chief when the changes are made and ensure that the commissioners are provided with the amended copy.

Officer Carlson and the K-9 were outside the Town Hall to greet the Commissioners. They have been doing an excellent job and have assisted on a number of cases. Officer Carlson has been doing an excellent job keeping active with his training and really working well with surrounding departments. The department is looking forward in starting up the second K-9; they have begun the preliminary stages of preparing for the class with the State this fall. Deputy Chief Byrnes expects the same success. Commissioner Testani asked if an officer has been selected for the second K-9. Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commission that Officer Greg Lee has passed the preliminary agility test.

There have been a couple residential burglaries last month; and he is happy to inform that the Detective Bureau has made some progress. They have been working with other departments and have recovered some evidence and are in the process of obtaining arrest warrants for those responsible.

Regarding other activity, this past month they have seen three (3) counterfeiting cases; there are 7 counterfeiting cases for the year which is more than normally seen. There are five (5) Drug Violations. Medical Calls, 140; the officers are doing an exceptional job in responding to medical emergencies and in supporting EMS. Recently we had an application of the AED on a doctor at the doctor's office.

There was discussion last month of the EMS Dispatch change which will be taking place soon. Medical calls will be transferred to CMED vs. the Fire Dispatch Center which is currently in place now. Commissioner Testani asked if EMS should come to next month's meeting. Deputy Chief Byrnes agreed and has suggested that EMS provide an explanation at next month's meeting as

the Police Commission has oversight of the public safety answering point. Commissioner McGovern stated that he heard that the Fire Department is looking to move out of the Police Department and asked whether that was correct. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that the Central Emergency Dispatch Commission (CEDC) has been working to establish a combined dispatch center, but the Fire Departments have not determined whether they will they stay within the Police Department building in a combined center or move their operation elsewhere. Commissioner McGovern stated that he heard that the Fire Department is looking to build a new building on Main Street/Wilmot Avenue that will have a dispatch center in that building. Deputy Chief Byrnes said it is far too early to know how or whether this new building will weigh into the decision of the fire departments. Deputy Chief Byrnes informed Commissioner Zamarly that the Fire Departments are separate taxing municipalities and would fund the project themselves.

Commissioner Henry asked for an explanation how 911 calls are answered. Deputy Chief Byrnes explained that for the past 20 years there have been 2 similar centers within the police department; one is staffed by two (2) members of the police department and the other is staffed by the Regional Dispatch Center that is funded by the three (3) fire districts. When a call comes into the department, it is picked up simultaneously by the Police Personnel and Fire Personnel and is continued by the appropriate service. The Police Department has priority in handling the call so they initiate the conversation and determine what the problem is and if necessary the Fire Dispatch takes over the call. By State Statute the Police Department has the responsibility for the PSAP as well as all the requirements mandated for medical calls. This responsibility will now be transferred from RDC to CMED. Commissioner Zamarly asked the reason for the three (3) different ambulance services that are in town. Deputy Chief Byrnes informed him that the town's EMS service contracts paramedic services to other ambulance services which also respond to Trumbull when necessary. There are also mutual aid services that respond when Trumbull EMS is busy handling other calls. Commissioner Henry asked whether other towns have two (2) people picking up calls simultaneously. Deputy Chief Byrnes knows of no others; this is a unique system the department has in place right now. Commissioner McGovern asked if the Police Department is the first responders for the fire department as well as EMS. Deputy Chief Byrnes said that the Police Department responds to nearly every fire call. Commissioner DiGennaro asked if there is a total number of 911 calls that are received in Trumbull. Deputy Chief Byrnes said that is not on this list of calls but the data can be obtained. The Police Commission requested that data for the August meeting.

There were 50 arrests last month for a variety of crimes, all listed on the arrest report. What are not listed on the report are the minor violations, infractions, possession of marijuana, etc. Commissioner Zamarly asked if funeral escorts are requested or assigned by the department. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that some are hired as special duty jobs and some are assigned by the department, usually due to the size of the funeral and the number of vehicles.

### **Traffic Report**

- The most significant information on the Traffic Report is the Madison Avenue Bridge overpass on Route 15 closure from July 9, 2012 to August 3, 2012.

- There are also several routine traffic complaints throughout the town that are being addressed individually.
- Commissioner Testani brought to our attention the pedestrian crossing on White Plains Road/Daniels Farm Road. The Traffic Unit checked the area and determined there is a problem with the crossing signal. State DOT will be contacted for this repair and the possibility of enhancing the pedestrian crossing area. The Patrol and Traffic Division were notified to check the area for violations.

Commissioner Testani asked what action is taken when traffic complaints are received. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that officers are assigned to the locations and are asked to monitor the traffic for enforcement, etc. We also like to use the speed trailer to make people aware of their speeds. The follow-up is to use an officer with radar or laser which gets more attention. Unfortunately we have not had either the speed trailer or the radar/laser systems as they are all being repaired. One of the new patrol cars that was recently equipped has a radar system installed and will be used by the Traffic Unit.

### **Training/Community Service Report**

The report provides a list of the training courses that officers have been assigned to and the community service events that were attended.

Personnel/Sick Injury Report was provided to the Commissioners along with the Detective Bureau Report.

### **Budget and Finances**

Deputy Chief Byrnes provided the commissioners with a year-end balance sheet for FY 2012. Discussion followed and questions were raised as to the reason for the overtime account. Deputy Chief Byrnes stated that the Overtime account is being reviewed to determine what areas in the department created the overage. The two most significant contributions were the major storms in 2011.

### **Personnel**

- Brian weir was promoted from detective to sergeant and is awaiting assignment in the Patrol Division. His position in the Detective Bureau has been posted for replacement.
- The Records Division still has no full-time clerks. Both positions have been vacant due to one retirement on June 1st, and one long-term medical leave. We are still waiting for a candidate list from the Personnel Department.
- The two new officers will be completing their field training in July. The third new hire will be graduating from the Police Academy, tomorrow, Wednesday, July 11, 2012 and will be assigned for field training.
- The written test for new officers was conducted in June; one-hundred-eleven (111) are being scheduled for the oral portion of the exam later this month.
- Deputy Chief Byrnes commended the personnel of the evening Patrol shift for their exceptional performance with drug enforcement activity over the past year. From July 2011 to June 2012, the shift initiated one-hundred-sixty-one (161) drug violation cases,

many of which resulted in arrests and seizure of all types of illegal narcotics. Specifically, he complimented the leadership of Lt. Kirby, as well as the individual efforts of Officers Michael Pires, Dan Silva, Brian Falkenstein, Greg Lee, Paul Coutinho, Dan Wheeler, and K-9 handler RJ Carlson. These officers initiated an increase in drug violation cases of over 500% when compared to the previous one-year period, which had a total of twenty-five (25) cases.

### **Old Business**

Commissioners requested that the False Alarm Abatement Ordinance that was presented to the Town Council be emailed to them.

The Commissioners requested an update on establishing the Police Substation at the Westfield Mall. Deputy Chief Byrnes told the commission that nothing has been decided and that he is still working with the mall managers on the project. Deputy Chief Byrnes provided the commission with what would be needed for the substation and a map of the property with possible locations for the substation. Commissioner Testani indicated that he would follow-up with the First Selectman regarding the Police Substation at the Trumbull Mall. Commissioner DiGennaro will also check with Planning and Zoning regarding any requests the mall has for expansion. The Commission will be writing a letter to the Westfield Mall requesting their attendance at the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting for them to provide the Commission an update of the Police Substation project. The Commission would like to see the Substation established before the holidays.

### **New Business**

Per the First Selectman's request, Chief Kiely, Deputy Chief Byrnes, Mr. Butkus, Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Hammers have been selected to interview the four (4) vendors that submitted proposals for the Efficiency Audit of EMS. The interviews will take place on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn meeting. MOTION made (Commissioner Henry), 2<sup>nd</sup> (Commissioner Zmary) to ADJOURN the Trumbull Police Commission Meeting at 8:33 pm. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Munoz  
Clerk of the Commission