



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
ALFRED LIGGINS, COMMISSIONER
ROGER MCGOVERN, COMMISSIONER
LINO COSTANTINI, COMMISSIONER
PHILIP DIGENARO, COMMISSIONER
ALBERT ZAMARY, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Trumbull Police Department – Chief's Conference Room
Tuesday, June 11, 2013

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 8:06 pm.

Members Present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Albert Zmary

Also Present: Chief Thomas H. Kiely
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Michael Harry
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese
Edward Lavernoch, Economic & Community Development Director

Absent: Lino Costantini
Philip DiGennaro

Public Comments

Opened at 8:06 pm.

There being no public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comments at 8:07 pm.

Approval of May 21, 2013 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2013 as presented. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner McGovern, 2nd by Commissioner Costantini. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION, CHAIRMAN TESTANI.

Commissioner Liggins made a motion to move New Business, Edward Lavernoich as the next item on the agenda.

MOTION made 1st by Commissioner Liggins, 2nd by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

New Business

Edward Lavernoich, Economic & Community Development Director – Engineering Survey by Tighe and Bond for Merritt Boulevard

Edward Lavernoich introduced himself as the Economic & Community Development Director for the Town of Trumbull. Mr. Lavernoich explained that he has met with Mr. Peter Divone of Unilever to discuss their concerns about the high speed, drivers ignoring the traffic lights and the pedestrian walkway on Merritt Boulevard. Unilever has 5 buildings in the office park and have the employees walk between other buildings and are very concerned about the high speed, traffic lights, etc. Mr. Lavernoich informed the commission that the town has hired Tighe & Bond to conduct a traffic analysis of Merritt Boulevard and have discussed the survey in detail.

Lt. Thomas Savarese reported that they are looking to reduce the speed limit from 35 MPH on the straightway to 25 MPH when the cars are approaching the pedestrian zone. They are also looking to add Chevron signs at the curve. Officer Thompson checked the area of Merritt Boulevard and has suggested that an additional (6) 25 MPH speed limit signs be added throughout the park; in the study it was suggested to add “Stop Here on Red” signs at the intersections. Lt. Savarese mentioned that at the intersections pedestrian crossings are pedestrian activated and would like to install “Stop Here on Red” signs in those areas. There is also the possibility of painted medians to visually restrict lanes to slow traffic; they will speak with Town Highway. The last step that will be done is the speed enforcement and speed trailer placement. These are initial requests that the Traffic Division is bringing up to the commission for their approval.

Mr. Lavernoich read a letter that was written to him from Unilever thanking him for taking the time and observing the traffic on Merritt Boulevard and hiring Tighe & Bond to conduct a survey. Chairman Testani asked if there was an estimate of the cost for the town for the signs to be installed. Lt. Savarese indicated he was not aware of the cost he would need to contact Town Highway.

Motion made by Commissioner Zamary to approve the change of speed limit from 35 MPH to 25 MPH on Merritt Boulevard. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner Zamary and 2nd by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion made by Commissioner Zamary to commence in the new July 2013 fiscal year to implement the initial requests as presented, to incorporate the chevron signs at the curve as suggested, an additional six (6) 25 MPH speed limit signs throughout the park, “Stop Here on

Red” signs at the signaled intersections, speed enforcement and speed trailer, with the exception of the painted medians. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner Zamary and 2nd by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Testani would like for Lt. Savarese to provide the commission with an update on a monthly basis with the results on Merritt Boulevard.

Correspondence

None.

Chief Kiely's Report

- Chief Kiely informed the Commission that the Memorial Day Parade went well.
- The testing and hiring is moving forward for the Police Department. Lt. Savarese has gathered information from CPCA which are getting into the testing business. Chief Kiely will meet with his Deputy Chiefs and Lt. Savarese and review the information they have on CPCA. The department will be able to hire 3 new officers in January, but it will take approximately that long to get an officer hired. The department will have 5 police officer openings with Sgt. Hynes retiring on July 12, 2013.
- The Promotional test for Lieutenant and Sergeant will be conducted in August. The testing company will be meeting with the officers that will be taking the test to answer any questions.
- Trumbull Day is on June 29, 2013. Deputy Chief Byrnes, Lt. Savarese and Lt. Sikora are working together in preparing a schedule for the event to run as smoothly as possible. They also are working on a contingency plan for Sunday, June 30th for the fireworks only.
- Chief Kiely informed the Commission that Thursday, June 13th the Police Department will go before the Board of Finance requesting bonding for the Radio Communications project. The architect will be Brian Humes who has done many renovation projects for Public Safety agencies. Chief Kiely informed the Commission that a couple of members from the Board of Finance, Elaine Hammers and Susan LeFrance stopped by the Trumbull Police Department earlier in the evening to ask questions and view the dispatch center. The meeting was productive. Chairman Testani asked how much is being bonded for project, Chief Kiely responded \$4.2 M. Chairman Testani agreed that the dispatch center needs to be renovated.

Deputy Chief Byrnes Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commission that there were approximately 1,800 calls for the month of May. There were eleven (11) Drug Violations, eight (8) of those are credited towards Officer Pires. There has been an increase in motor vehicle activity with thanks to the DOT enforcement grant. There were 255 Burglar Alarms for the month of May, which is slightly higher than normal, and averages out to 7/8 alarm calls per day. The department averages 5 medical calls per day and at least 3 motor vehicle accidents per day. Deputy Chief Byrnes also informed the Commission that there were about 53 Criminal Arrests.

Chief Kiely mentioned that in the Tax Flyer there will be the initial information for registering your home alarm. Chief Kiely indicated that the department is working with NexGen and Bill Chin and hope to have the database up and running within the month. The department's goal is to decrease the alarms by 50%, but this will not happen within the year, but in two or three years it is possible. Chairman Testani asked for an update of the progress on the Alarm Ordinance database for the July 11th meeting along with requesting that Bill Chin attend the meeting as well.

On May 23rd Officer Ruscoe who was on patrol noticed a vehicle parked on a side street outside the Trumbull Shopping Park, he approached the vehicle and spoke with the men inside the car and he noticed they were trying to conceal something. In checking further, Officer Ruscoe found a large number of credit cards with a variety of names. He gathered further information and with the help of other officers they entered the Trumbull Shopping Park and located 2 other suspects. They recovered 53 credit cards which had been re-encoded with stolen card holder information, as well as quantity merchandise for quite a large fraud ring of credit cards. This was a significant case for the department which the department, where we normally see smaller shoplifting cases with the help of the Detective Bureau and several officers they also notified the Financial Crime Task Force which includes the Secret Service, who responded immediately. The FBI also assisted the department with a Mandarin/Chinese translator to assist with processing the suspects.

Detective Bureau Report

Deputy Chief Harry reported that the detective bureau has several cases opened for the month of May. There was one robbery that involved several other towns, with the work of the Detective Bureau they were able to solve nine (9) robberies from throughout the state. The warrants are in progress. There has been an increase with the pistol permit applications which has increased from last year. Presently we have a light duty officer who is assisting with the finger-printing but unfortunately that will end in the beginning of July.

Detective Coppola is working on a probate case. There were five (5) burglaries in May and two (2) of them turned out not to be burglaries. The other three (3) are under investigation. The Detective Bureau has opened 51 cases for the month of May. Chairman Testani asked how many detectives there are. Deputy Chief Harry responded there department has five (5) Detectives and two (2) Detective Sergeants.

Chief Kiely informed the Commission that the department has five (5) officers on long term injuries.

Lt. Thomas Savarese Traffic Report

Lt. Savarese provided an update on the Whitney Avenue Rails to Trails; the Traffic Unit met with the Town Engineers on Whitney Avenue and they discussed the location of the crossing and the pedestrian safety issues. The Engineering Department will be contacting Tighe & Bond for input on solutions to enhance the safety at these crossing.

- Lt. Savarese has a meeting on June 12th with the Engineers in the Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Counsel to go over some options on the Route 111 crossings that involved DOT. Lt. Savarese will have an update for the Commission of his meeting in the July 9th meeting.
- The Trumbull Police Department participated in the 2013 Click It or Ticket campaign from May 20th through June 2nd 2013. There were 148 seat belt citations issued during that period.
- The Traffic Division assisted the Bridgeport Police Department in May with documenting a fatal Domestic Violence incident involving a motor vehicle.

Lt. Savarese also provided the Commission an update on the Towing Application that is on the Town Website and has been advertised in the CT Post. At the present time the department has received one (1) application from Family Garage. Lt. Savarese has been in contact with Mid-Town Towing and Park Towing as they have called asking for some information.

Chairman Testani asked Lt. Savarese if by the July 11th meeting Tighe & Bond would have a study done on the Whitney Avenue. Lt. Savarese replied he has not sure if they can but will check and report back to the Commission on July 11th. Chairman Testani asked if enforcement on Whitney Avenue would continue as he read on the Traffic Report that there were 19 speed enforcement cases from April - May. Chief Kiely responded that they areas are always patrolled.

Chief Kiely introduced the new Director of EMS, Joe Laucella. Mr. Laucella informed the Commission that he joined the Town of Trumbull at the end of March and has been working with some wonderful individuals. He reported that as of May EMS is covering 91% of the call volume in town; there have been 376 medical calls for the month of May which is 100 calls higher than April. Mr. Laucella said that they have requested a new ambulance; they have also re-signed with a billing service to reduce the rate for billing. EMS has recruited 18 volunteers since the end of March. Mr. Laucella is looking to finalize an agreement with a higher education institution in the local area to offer the towns EMT class in their campus. Trumbull residents can go to the campus and if they are a town employee or recent retired military vet they can receive a 25% discount for the EMT classes. Mr. Laucella also mentioned that they will be offering CPR classes in the Fall. They have also done some hands on classes on CPR at the Trumbull Shopping Center.

EMS is staffing two (2) ambulances each day minimum from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. at night and one overnight ambulance. Mr. Laucella is looking to expand in the future and is looking for the future to have four (4) ambulances on the road. He is looking for more volunteers to get additional resources on the road and make sure when the officers are on scene they are not there for long period of time. Mr. Laucella thanked Chief Kiely and the Deputy Chief's as they have been more than helpful and welcoming.

Chairman Testani thanked Mr. Laucella for coming to meeting and he has seen improvements since he has joined the town. Chairman Testani asked if Mr. Laucella would please continue to provide monthly updates to the Commission this way the community is aware of the

improvements that are taking place. Mr. Laucella also mentioned that there will be new people joining his team as of July 1st, he has signed a contract with a staffing company and there will be some new and old faces on his team. Chief Kiely mentioned that on July 1st the Police Department will be purchasing an Emergency Response Vehicle that will also be equipped with medical equipment. This vehicle will be stationed at the Trumbull Police Department.

Unfinished Business

None.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner Liggins, 2nd by Commissioner McGovern to ADJOURN the Trumbull Police Commission Meeting at 9:16 pm. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission