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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 Town Hall – Long Hill Conference Room
October 8, 2013

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman
Lino Costantini
Alfred Liggins
Roger McGovern
Albert Zamarly

Also Present: Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Michael Harry
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese
Jesse Jablon, Chief of Staff

Absent: Chief Thomas H. Kiely
Philip DiGennaro

Public Comments

Opened at 7:05 pm.

There being no public comments Chairman Jack Testani closed the Public Comments at 7:06 pm.

Approval of September 10, 2013 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Police Commission Meeting Minute of September 10, 2013 as presented. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner McGovern, 2nd by Commissioner Zamarly. Chairman Testani also questioned the members to see if there were any changes or discussions. There were none. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Correspondence

There is no correspondence to report.

Deputy Chief Byrnes Report

Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the Commission that the activity reports are in their binders. The report shows average activity for the month of September. Deputy Chief Byrnes highlighted on the Alarms. Since the ordinance took place in the middle of last month, there has not been much of a change in the weekly or daily calls. Commissioner McGovern asked what is done when Town Hall, Board of Education, Town Garage or any public facility alarms are activated. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that it is their understanding that the town facilities are exempt from the ordinance. The average alarm calls last year were 8 per day as of this fiscal year there are 7 per day. Commissioner Costantini confirmed that the town buildings are except from the false alarms, does the Board of Education fall under the municipal buildings? Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that the Board of Education falls under a town building. Commissioner Costantini indicated that he understands and if he recalls correctly that throughout the years the majority of the offenders are town buildings. Will that be addressed? Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that they are one of the large numbers of calls, he is not sure if they are a majority of the calls. The town buildings will be addressed and some of the frequent offenders are the schools. Possibly the same letter that is issued to the residents will be issued to the town buildings as well. Deputy Chief Harry informed the Commission that in Section 11 of the Alarm Ordinance it exempts the Town of Trumbull or any of its departments or agencies including the Board of Education. The department in charge of those buildings shall receive notification of false alarms so that corrective measures may be taken. Chairman Testani asked that the letter to Dr. Cialfi be coordinated with the Police Commission prior to sending out. Deputy Chief Harry informed Chairman Testani that he will draft a letter and send to him for his approval. Commissioner McGovern asked if the false alarms can be broken down into categories as in homes, businesses, etc. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that at this time the computer only recognizes addresses it cannot separate into categories. Deputy Chief Harry informed the commission that since the Alarm Ordinance has been instituted the department has received 501 alarm registrations. There are 9 addresses that are repeated offenders, example one of them is the Madison Middle School Annex. Deputy Chief Byrnes continued his activity report; there was an assault with a gun that occurred during the midnight shift. Gunshot victim was driven from Bridgeport to Target at Hawley Lane. It was determined that the shooting took place in Bridgeport therefore the Bridgeport Police Department took over that case. There were two (2) counterfeiting cases (which have become more common over the past few years). Counterfeiting is being seen more particularly in the mall. There was one case that involved Best Buy, a group from New Haven who has been visiting the store with counterfeit \$100 bills. The officers were able to apprehend the group at the end of last month. The officers made three (3) arrests which happened to include one of the newest officers, Officer Pysz who was riding with his FTO. Five (5) drug violations, all during traffic stops, which continue to include heroin and prescription drugs.

Deputy Chief Byrnes invited questions about the activity reports. Commissioner Liggins had a question on the number of residential burglaries, is that a normal number? Deputy Chief Harry responded that is a high number but three (3) of those burglaries where attempts, nothing was taken and one (1) was believed to be a family member.

There were 45 arrests for the month of September which included a variety of charges and there were 3 DWI for the month.

The four (4) recruits that have been out of the academy for a short period of time are all in different phases of their training and all are doing well. Officer Sota will be ending his field training mid October.

Also, starting this school year for security the officers have been visiting the schools in the mornings and afternoons particularly elementary schools. The officers turn in a daily log and it is submitted to the Board of Education. The presence of the police officers has been well received by the schools.

The K-9 program has been very successful and they have been assisting in many cases. All the supervisors have complimented and commended both Officers Carlson and Greg Lee. The officers rotate their schedules therefore they are available to respond when needed. The officers also respond very quickly on after hours and weekend calls.

Traffic Report

Traffic report was presented by Lieutenant Savarese

- Complaint: Racing: Merritt Blvd. Complainant reported that cars are racing on Merritt Blvd during the late night and early morning hours. She requested speed bumps be installed. Officer Richard contacted the complainant. Installing speed bumps is not a viable option. Complainant will contact TPD when activity occurs. Patrol has been notified. There are 3 locations with speeding complaints. So far the department has issued 16 speeding infractions in these areas and will continue to monitor.
- Complaint: Motor Vehicle Accident: Bonnieview Dr. Complainant reported that recently two vehicles operators have lost control of their vehicles at a curve on Bonnieview Drive and ended up on her property. The most recent incident took place in the early morning hours. Officer Thompson spoke with the complainant. A request has been made to the Town Highway Department to install chevron signs (arrows) in the area of the curve to warn motorists. The complainant was in contact with the Town Highway Department and the chevrons will **not** be installed for aesthetic reasons, she asked for them not to be installed. Chairman Testani asked why did the complainant no longer want the chevrons installed. What the complainant told Lt. Savarese was that she has been in contact with the First Selectman's office and she is looking for more drastic measures to be taken on Bonnieview Dr. She is looking to making it into a dead end or cul-de-sac which is beyond the police department's capabilities. Commissioner Costantini mentioned that he has several family members that live on Bonnieview Dr. and what people do is once they see the traffic near mall they use Bonnieview Dr. to bypass the traffic and they speed. Lt. Savarese indicated that officers have been assigned to at that location during rush hour when the speeding mostly occurs. Chairman Testani asked if there are speed limit signs. Chairman Testani asked if the Traffic Division would please check if speed limit signs are posted. Lt. Savarese indicated

he will have the Traffic Division take a look at the area and see where speed limit signs should be posted.

Motion made to install 25 MPH speed limit signs on Bonnieview Drive on both sides of the road. MOTION made 1st by Commissioner Costantini, 2nd by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Complaint: MV Accidents. Oakview Dr.: Complainant property manager of Affinion Group located at 40 Oakakview Dr. reported that two vehicles operators in the past month have lost control of their vehicles on a curve and crashed onto the property. Both accidents took place in the late evening and early morning hours. Officer Thompson spoke with the complainant. Town Highway was notified to install chevron signs (arrows) in the area of the curve to warn motorists.
- DUI Grant has begun; it will run from October 2013 through September 2014.
- The Traffic Accident reconstruction officers attended a three day training seminar on collision reconstruction in Pennsylvania during the month of September.
- Motor vehicle stops for the month of September included 12 speed enforcement stops on Daniels Farm Road.

Chairman Testani mentioned that he saw a few weeks ago one of the police department motorcycles in the area of Indian Ledge doing radar for speeding. Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commission that Officer Skoog has been assigned to the area to monitor the speeding and also rides through the trail. Office Duva also assists with this detail.

Detective Bureau Report

The Detective Bureau Report was delivered by Deputy Chief Harry.

- There has been an uptick in burglaries again. The detective bureau has made some apprehensions.
- Detective Murray is returning back to the detective bureau but on the down side three (3) of the detectives are on the promotional list. Deputy Chief Harry said he is very proud of the detectives that are on the promotional list.
- There were four (4) larcenies as in theft from cars and homes. These larcenies are currently being investigated, one (1) of them has been solved and the other three (3) are still active.

New Business

New Business was reported by Chairman Testani

- Discussion of an adoption of a policy for the department's fleet and maintenance; Chairman Testani asked about the material presented regarding the fleet and maintenance. Deputy Chief Harry responded what has been in placed with the

mechanics is when a vehicle is not working the officers place a tag on the rearview mirror so no other officer uses the vehicle. Then the town highway receives a vehicle maintenance slip through email informing them that there is a vehicle that needs repair. The police department is currently looking to hire a mechanic. Chief Kiely is handling the hiring with Mary Ann Meier of Civil Service. Commissioner Liggins asked if a log is kept on the cars that require maintenance or repairs. Deputy Chief Harry reported that a log is kept of when a vehicle goes in for repair. Commissioner Costantini asked if the mechanic that is being hired will be dedicated only to the police department. Deputy Chief Harry responded yes and they will work at the police department for any vehicle repairs. Commissioner McGovern mentioned that Commissioner Costantini stated the position is full time but Deputy Chief Harry was hesitant. Is the position full time or part time? Deputy Chief Harry mentioned again that he is not familiar with the particulars on the position as Chief Kiely is handling. At the present time the position is not budgeted but will be added to next year's budget proposal. Chairman Testani mentioned that it is his understanding that the First Selectman suggested to the Chief that the money be transferred within the police departments budget to hire a mechanic. Chairman Testani does not recall if the position was listed as part time or full time. Jesse Jablon, Acting Chief of Staff responded that is correct what Chairman Testani reported above and that the next step is for Mary Ann Meier and Chief Kiely to meet and discuss position. Mr. Jablon followed up with Mary Ann Meier to see if she has met with Chief Kiely and she indicated not as of yet and she was asked to please follow up with Chief Kiely. Commissioner McGovern asked when the mechanic position/money was transferred to the highway department, why can't the money be transferred back to the police department's budget as the police department had this position before. Chairman Testani responded that the money was not transferred to town highway as it is his understanding that the Chief did not request a mechanic position in the 2013-2014 budget. Chairman Testani asked for clarification on the mechanic position and what will the policy be for the fleet maintenance in the November meeting.

Motion was made to table discussion of car maintenance until the November meeting. MOTION made 1st by Commission Zamarly, 2nd by Commissioner Liggins. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Discussion of the sexual harassment policy for the police department; Chairman Testani indicated that he spoke with Chief Kiely about implementing the sexual harassment policy in the police department. Chairman Testani asked is there currently a sexual harassment policy at the police department. Chairman Testani indicated that it is his understanding there is none. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that is correct the police department falls under the town's sexual harassment policy. A copy of the policy was provided to the commissioners. Deputy Chief Byrnes informed the commissioners that the officers will receive a copy of the policy. Chairman Testani asked if other police departments in the area have their own sexual harassment policy separate from the town's policy. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded, not that he is aware of and he would not expect the departments to have a separate policy. Chairman Testani asked Deputy Chief Byrnes so it is your understanding that other police departments as in Monroe,

Stratford, Shelton and Fairfield comply with their town's sexual harassment policy. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that is what he would expect. He would not expect a policy for the police departments to be different from their town policy.

- Show that each department is covered by EAP; Chairman Testani asked if each employee is covered by EAP. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded the EAP program is covered by Behavioral Health Consultant LLC. A summary report was provided to commissioners which includes the agreement that was signed and what the program covers. The employee utilization report shows that 83 employees are covered that number includes civilian personnel along with police officers. Chairman Testani asked if each employee received a copy of what the program covers and how are the employees aware of the service. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that all the employees are given material along with a wallet size card of the program. There is also a variety of material posted in the building that makes them aware of the services available. Any individual that the department has dealt with after an incident or through a personnel issue that the employee shares with their supervisor, they are made aware of the service that is available to them. The department has also used the program to determine if an employee is fit for duty. Everyone is aware of the program.
- A report on statistics on the alarm ordinance; Deputy Chief Harry informed the commission that Trumbull residents will be given another month to send in their alarm registration forms. Letters will be sent to the repeat offenders. The department has received 501 alarm registration forms. Chairman Testani asked that the Trumbull Patch and Trumbull Times be asked to inform the residents that they have until October 15th to register their alarms and after that date they will receive a letter with the fines should they not comply with the ordinance.
- A report from Deputy Chief Byrnes regarding the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center; The committee is on their 7th meeting and all agencies involved have shared a lot of information and they have also visited other agencies. The object of visiting other agencies is to see what they have and what has been successful for them and that we are heading to a successful model. The committee feels that they will meet the 90 day deadline to provide the First Selectman a report of their finding. The report will be given to the First Selectman by the beginning of November. Deputy Chief Byrnes continued a detailed report on the Centralized Emergency Dispatch Center.

Commissioner Costantini asked about the construction he has seen at the police department. Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that the windows at the police department are being replaced and T-Mobile is doing some preliminary soil testing for the cell tower.

Commission Zarny made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:00 to discuss Personnel Matters. MOTION made 1st by Commission Zarny, 2nd by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Entering into Executive Session was Chairman Testani, Commissioners Costantini, Liggins, McGovern and Zarny, Deputy Chiefs Byrnes and Harry, Lieutenant Savarese and Jesse Jablon.

Deputy Chief Byrnes and Harry and Lieutenant Savarese exited executive session at 8:27 p.m.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 8:46 pm. MOTION was 1st made by Commissioner Liggins, 2nd by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment

Commissioner Liggins made a motion to adjourn at 8:46 pm. Motion made 1st by Commissioner Liggins, 2nd by Commissioner McGovern. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vivian Munoz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission