



MICHAEL LOMBARDO  
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POLICE COMMISSION

JACK TESTANI, CHAIRMAN  
PHILIP DIGENNARO  
ALFRED LIGGINS  
ROGER MCGOVERN  
DANIEL PORTANOVA  
ALBERT ZAMARY

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting  
Long Hill Conference Room – Town Hall  
January 20, 2015

**MINUTES**

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

Members present: Jack Testani, Chairman  
Alfred Liggins  
Roger McGovern  
Daniel Portanova  
Albert Zamary

Absent: Philip DiGennaro

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo  
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes  
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese  
Lieutenant Ronald Kirby

Approval of the December 9, 2014 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2014 as presented.  
Motion made first by Commissioner Zamary, seconded by Commissioner Liggins.

Commissioner McGovern commented that in the third paragraph in the beginning of the minutes the word “leaf” should be changed to “left”. There was no further discussion. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamary. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Testani welcomed Chief Lombardo to his first police commission meeting and expressed his sincere thanks to Chief Kiely for his service to the Town of Trumbull. He also welcomed Commissioner Portanova.

Motion made to move New Business, Patrick Madden, Westfield Shopping Center – Police Substation out of order. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by

Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **New Business**

Chairman Testani thanked and welcomed Mr. Patrick Madden of the Westfield Shopping Center. Chairman Testani asked Mr. Madden if he would please provide a little background of what transpired at the previous substation, when it was closed, why was it closed, what steps have been taken through the correspondence with Deputy Chief Byrnes to find a new location.

Mr. Madden thanked the commission for the opportunity to come in and provide an update of where things stand with the substation. Mr. Madden indicated that back in August 2014 the topic came up of leasing out the space of where the police substation was located to Deputy Chief Byrnes and the timing was not yet determined of when the space would be leased to a permanent tenant. His understanding of the arrangement with the police substation space was the possibility of the substation being relocated at some point. Mr. Madden indicated around September 3, 2014 he sent an email to Deputy Chief Byrnes letting him know that new arrangements needed to be made for the police substation to move out. At the time there was no alternative space for the police substation. Mr. Madden indicated that sometime in the beginning of this year there would be some potential retailers moving out where he will continue to look into a new location for the substation. It is of interest for the Westfield Shopping Center to relocate the police substation as they have a great long standing relationship with the Trumbull Police department and wishes to continue that as it is important to have the presence of the police in the mall. Mr. Madden indicated they have identified a possible new space available for the substation which is the former space that was occupied by Verizon Wireless on the lower level of the shopping center. Mr. Madden indicated that he has to go through a process in order to have Westfield approve the location and what he would like to propose is to enter into a written agreement that provides the police department the space for a certain period of time and that the space is removed out of the market for any retailers. The last thing Mr. Madden would like is for the police substation to continue to move around the mall.

Chairman Testani mentioned to Deputy Chief Byrnes that one of the important things that was important in the previous settings for the substation where certain wiring needs. Is this new location suitable? Deputy Chief Byrnes and Mr. Madden indicated they have spoken about the wiring needs for the substation and they will verify.

Commissioner Zamary asked how Deputy Chief Byrnes felt about the new location being proposed. Deputy Chief Byrnes responded that the location is good, it is a bigger space than the past locations and has good access to an exterior door.

Chairman Testani asked if the location has a back room, as the current location seems to be exposed to the public. Mr. Madden responded that there is a small back room but what he would suggest. Is to close up the area and convert it to an office similar to the previous substation. The Westfield Shopping center would make the arrangements to have the substation suitable for the police.

Chairman Testani asked about Mr. Maddens comment about entering into an agreement for the police substation, is the agreement between Westfield Shopping Center and the Town of Trumbull or the Police Commission or the Trumbull Police Department?

Mr. Madden responded whoever on behalf of the town would sign an agreement. Mr. Madden indicated that he is not looking for rental agreement; it would be more like a binding document in which the Westfield Shopping center would charge \$1 for rent. Again Mr. Madden would like to have some sort of Lease arrangement or License arrangement to show that the space is committed to the Trumbull Police substation and that it will not get leased out as it occurred in the past. Chairman Testani mentioned that Mr. Madden would need to speak with Westfield corporate before the space can be offered. Mr. Madden indicated that is correct.

Commissioner Portanova asked what would be the turnaround time to get approval from corporate. Mr. Madden responded a couple of weeks. Commissioner Portanova asked if the location would be renewed on a year to year basis. Mr. Madden indicated that he would ask corporate if they would grant a renewal option as they technically don't lease on a renewal basis, but this is a special circumstance.

Chief Lombardo indicated that what's important is that Mr. Madden has indicated that he is trying to get a longer term commitment to the town, to the police department for a place that will work for the substation with the hope of a yearlong commitment or longer if possible.

Chairman Testani offered to let the commission know if Mr. Madden needs assistance in persuading Westfield corporate. Mr. Madden responded that having the First Selectman help persuade the corporate would be great.

Chairman Testani asked Mr. Madden to provide an update by February 5<sup>th</sup> through Deputy Chief Byrnes in which then the police commission will be notified.

Mr. Madden thanked the commission again and appreciates what the police department does and having the presence of the officers in the shopping center.

Mr. Madden also mentioned that the Westfield Shopping center is working on having a software program that would enable the police department to view the security system from the Trumbull Police Department within the next couple of months.

**Approval of Chief Kiely to continue as Chief on a per diem basis until Chief Lombardo commences employment**

Motion made to approve Chief Kiely to continue as Chief on a per diem basis until Chief Lombardo commences employment. Motion made first by Commissioner Liggins, seconded by Commissioner McGovern. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Correspondence**

Chief Lombardo received a letter of commendation for Lt. Kirby as he assisted a resident with their son. Chief Lombardo commended Lt. Kirby for doing a great job.

A letter was received by the parents of a gentleman who went into cardiac arrest at LA Fitness. Officer Leos and Officer Duva did a fantastic job as they used the defibrillator and revived the person. Deputy Chief Byrnes and Chief Lombardo attended a dinner hosted by EMS where Officer Leos and Duva were given a lifesaving awarded.

A letter of commendation was received for Officer Velky who on his day off stopped and assisted a woman and her daughter in an accident prior to emergency personnel arriving. Officer Velky rode in the ambulance with the daughter and visited her at the hospital the next day and brought her some gifts. Officer Velky went above and beyond to comfort them.

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls-for-Service and mentioned that a new category has been added "breach, disorderly, unwanted" report. For calendar year 2013-2014 the call volume increased by 7%, alarms came down by 8%, breach of peace, disorderly conduct increased by 10%, domestic violence increased 11%, larcenies increased by 4%, medical calls remain the same. DUI arrests, MV arrests, MV warnings, radar/laser collectively the traffic stops increased by 800 stops for the year. Overall there is a 10% increase in the calls-for-service.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Arrest Summary, the one that stands out was the arrest made by Detective Perez who was reporting to an extra duty assignment and he heard on the radio a burglary in progress and he responded and located the person that was involved in the burglary, confronted him, chased him down and arrested the person who was responsible for breaking into seven (7) homes during the night in the Hilltop Drive, Nichols area off White Plains Road and Oakridge. This was fantastic work done by Detective Perez.

Chairman Testani asked about the number shown under Missing Person-7. Chairman Testani also mentioned that about 2 weeks ago there was a resolution of a missing adult with the help of the Clinton Police Department. Deputy Chief Byrnes indicated that overall for 2014 there were 48 missing persons reported, this meaning a variety of circumstances, even if a person is missing for a short period of time they are considered a missing person. An example is a teenager who can't be located and is later found at a friend's house.

### **Sick and Injury Report**

Chief Lombardo indicated that the commission can see the total of injuries and sick on the report presented. There were no questions.

### **Traffic Report**

**Lt. Savarese reported for the month of December the following complaints:**

For the past two (2) years there has been an ongoing complaint of speeding on Huntington Road. There have been over 200 motor vehicle citations were issued on Huntington Road in

2013 and 2014. This area will continue to be on the monthly traffic enforcement list. The speed trailer was placed on Huntington Road.

**CT. Department of Transportation Items:**

1. The Department of Transportation (DOT) is planning to update the traffic signals on Main Street at Lake Avenue. Officer Richard met with DOT and the update will not occur until 2017.

2. The DOT is requesting the Town of Trumbull Local Traffic Authorities position on pedestrian activated traffic signals on Park Avenue at Bridgeport Hospital and the Route 15 northbound ramps. Lt. Savarese received more information from the Engineering Department and in speaking with them there is still some information that is missing from Bridgeport Hospital if they will be considering having any pedestrian traffic in the future. Currently there is “No Pedestrian Crossing” signs posted on Park Avenue and it is unclear who approved those signs. Lt. Savarese doesn’t believe it was the local traffic authority. There are some questions that need to be answered before the commission votes on “No Pedestrian Crossing”. Chief Lombardo suggested that Lt. Savarese to continue to investigate, provide a report and provide a recommendation to the board at another meeting.

3. DOT is expanding the installation of center line rumble strips to municipalities for town owned roads. There are some constraints to the program there needs a certain road with and a certain speed of 35 MPH. At the moment the only road Lt. Savarese sees as a possibility for the rumble strips is Penny Avenue. This information has been forwarded to the Town Engineer to see if this a program the town would like to get involved in.

The 2014/2015 DUI Enforcement Grant began on November 21, 2014 and will continue through September 7, 2015. Two hundred thirty one (231) citations were issued during the thirteen (13) day enforcement period for December, which included one (1) DUI arrest. The Traffic Unit assisted the Bridgeport Police Department with a fatal motor vehicle accident investigation that took place on Boston Avenue in December.

The Town of Trumbull is participating in the Redflex Student Guardian bus video violation program which started this school year. Passing school bus violators are identified through a video system mounted on school buses. Thirteen (13) citations were issued for the month of December.

**Training Report**

Chief Lombardo indicated to the commission the training report can be viewed in their books and asked if anyone had any questions. Chairman Testani asked what is the “States Attorney Legal Update Training”. Chief Lombardo explained it’s a class where the officers are provided updates on case laws, search and seizures and a refresher course. Chairman Testani also asked what is the MMUCC Training/Ebola Update, Lt. Savarese explained it’s a new traffic/accident form and the Ebola was a medical update. There were no other questions.

Lt. Kirby provided a hand out to the commission and an update on the Police Explorers. Since the program has been reinstated since May 2014, they have attended 4 different events and

they meet bi-weekly. Since the program has been reinstated two (2) advisors have been added and they are Sergeant Weir and Sergeant Falkenstein. Also Officer Michael Gonzalez joined, as well as Officer Kelly Gonzalez. When a cadet reaches maximum age of the program which is at age 21, they retain some of the past captains in which they come back and help with the program. Lt. Kirby indicated that they make sure that there are always at least two (2) advisors during any events. Currently there are 28 members involved in the Police Explorer program. The support from the parents has been great.

Chairman Testani asked at what age can they you join the program. Lt. Kirby responded age 14 as long as they have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Chairman Testani mentioned that if the child chooses they can stay in the program until age 21. Lt. Kirby indicated that 90% of the children stay in the program. How would a child know about the program? Lt. Kirby indicated word of mouth, school events and what occurs is the parents and child come to a meeting and see if this is a fit for them. Parents are encouraged to attend a meeting so they can see what the program is about. The program is not just about becoming an officer; different skills are taught to them with whatever they choose to do through life, which is the most important. Chairman Testani asked if there was a manual given to the participants. Lt. Kirby indicated that there is an operating procedure that gives some of the rules and requirements; an example is that the child maintains a "C" average in their grades. If for some reason the grades go below the average required the cadet would be removed from the program for a short period of time to give them the opportunity to get their grades back up. The program also assists them in finding the resources in helping them get their grade back up.

### **Detective Bureau Report**

Chief Lombardo indicated that a new Detective Bureau report is being created and will be submitted at the next meeting. Chief Lombardo informed the commission that there were 11 reported burglaries and several arrests have been made.

Chairman Testani made mention of the False Alarms report, one of the highest offenders are town buildings and that has been addressed in the past and Superintendent Cialfi has been informed that several are Board of Education buildings. Deputy Chief Byrnes reported that in the month of December there were 18 false alarms at town buildings and out of that number about 10 are school buildings. Chairman Testani asked if the Chief would remind the Board of Education to please be more cautious with the false alarms.

Chairman Testani asked where the Towing Policy stand for 2015. Lt. Savarese indicated that it has been done and the 2 towing companies that submitted applications are Buds Towing and Family Garage. Question came up about change in personnel at the towing companies. Lt. Savarese indicated that should there be a change in personnel the towing companies inform the police department and a background check is done and ID is provided to the tower.

Commissioner McGovern made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Union business and Unfinished business discussion of budget at 7:53 p.m. MOTION made by first by Commissioner McGovern and seconded by Commissioner Liggins. ALL IN FAVOR, motion carried unanimously.

Entering into Executive Session: Chairman Testani, Commissioners Liggins, McGovern, Portanova, Zamar, Chief Lombardo, Deputy Chief Byrnes, Detectives Coppola, Testi, Officer Gonzalez and Vivian Munoz.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. Motion made first by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Portanova. There was no further discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business to discuss, and upon motion made by Commissioner McGovern, seconded by Commissioner Zamar, the Trumbull Police Commission adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz  
Clerk of the Commission