



THOMAS H. KIELY
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT
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POLICE COMMISSION

DAVID WILSON, CHAIRMAN
MARY C. MORAN, VICE CHAIRMAN
LINO COSTANTINI
ANNA HENRY
ALFRED LIGGINS
WILLIAM MURPHY

Trumbull Police Department – Police Commission Meeting
Police Headquarters – Chief’s Conference Room
Tuesday, December 08, 2009
5:30PM
MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission Meeting was called to order at 5:35PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence.

Members Present: Dave Wilson, Commission Chairman
Mary Moran, Commission Vice Chairman
Lino Costantini, Commissioner
Anna Henry, Commissioner
Alfred Liggins, Commissioners
William Murphy, Commissioner

Also Present: Chief Thomas Kiely
Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes
Deputy Chief Michael Harry
Lieutenant Thomas Savarese
Officer Robert Coppola
Detective Rocco Testi
Attorney Mario Coppola

Public Comment: None

The Commission welcomed Mr. Alfred Liggins, a longtime Trumbull resident, as a new member of the Trumbull Police Commission. Mr. Liggins has replaced Sandy Galla.

MOTION MADE (Commissioner COSTANTINI) 2nd (Commissioner HENRY) to ACCEPT the minutes of the November 10th, 2009 Police Commission Meeting Minutes.

No discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. One abstention – Commission Vice Chairman, MORAN.

A Special Police Commission Meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2009 the purpose being for the election of officers for the Police Commission.

Correspondence: None

Chief Kiely's Report

There have been burglaries in the latter part of November which have been limited to the Nichols section of Town. There is a suspect vehicle. The incidents are currently under investigation.

The recent threat at Trumbull High School is under investigation, in which there are suspects. Any future incidents of this nature, which results in the evacuation and dismissal of students for the day, will be treated as a snow day from this point on.

On Friday, November 27th, 2009, (Black Friday) a group of youths were the victims of a robbery in the vicinity of the old Circuit City store, in which two parties were involved. This incident is currently under investigation.

John Bell, the individual who shot at Trumbull officers while executing a valid search and seizure warrant, was sentenced to 13 years in prison. Thanks to U.S. Attorneys Tracy Dayton and Michael Gustafson for doing all in their power and being successful in their pursuit.

The Budget Season is approaching and the tough economy will play a great roll in planning accordingly. A hard copy of the year-end report will be made available to the Commissioners upon its completion.

Traffic – Monthly Report

Commission Vice Chairman Moran reviewed the traffic report and found it to be in order. All issues/complaints have been addressed.

MOTION MADE (Commissioner COSTANTINI) 2nd (Commissioner MORAN) to move item 8 (Old/New Business) to item 10 (Grievances) and have item10 heard as item 8. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Grievances

Grievance 09-08 – On August 06, 2009, Deputy Chief Byrnes issued to Lieutenant Richard Applebaum a written reprimand. Lieutenant Richard Applebaum filed a grievance (#09-08) received by the Chief's Office on August 20, 2009 citing Article 17,

Section 1-Taking Disciplinary Action Without Cause – Harrassment. This grievance was denied on August 20th, 2009 by Chief Thomas Kiely.

Deputy Chief Glenn Byrnes presented to the Commission the nature of the reprimand. Copies of the written reprimand were made available to the Commission.

Trumbull Police Union President, Officer Robert Coppola informed the Commission that Lieutenant Applebaum had been notified that this grievance was on the agenda to be heard at this meeting, however, he was not present. Because of the HIPPA laws, the Union has no comment on the contents of the reprimand or the grievance presented before the Commission because the Union is not going to be in a position to discuss his medical issues. Under the Union contract, the Union reserves any other right that the Union has.

MOTION MADE (Commissioner COSTANTINI) moved that the Commission SUSTAIN the DENIAL; 2nd (Commissioner HENRY). No Discussion. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

At the November 10, 2009 Police Commission Meeting, a formal complaint against Lieutenant Richard Applebaum was filed with the Trumbull Police Commission by Deputy Chief Michael Harry. This item was tabled at that time, and scheduled to be heard at the December 08, 2009 Police Commission Meeting.

Deputy Chief Michael Harry read into the record his letter of complaint against Lieutenant Applebaum. Deputy Chief Harry informed the Commission that some of these complaints Lieutenant Applebaum has filed against him are serious, one of which he is being accused of violating the Lieutenant's civil rights. It is requested by Deputy Chief Harry to have the Commission direct Lieutenant Applebaum to direct his complaints to the Police Commission and have them addressed individually and in their entirety. Lieutenant Applebaum's actions create a hostile environment.

Commission Chairman Wilson suggested that the Chief and his staff, working with our Attorney and our Labor Negotiator, give this matter a complete investigation and a direction to go. The Commission is in complete agreement with this approach. We will formally notify the Union, and Lieutenant Applebaum, that this document exists.

Notification will be given to the Union and Lieutenant Applebaum as to the next scheduled hearing of this grievance. No action taken at this meeting.

Copies of Deputy Chief Harry's complaint were distributed to the Union and the Commission.

Old/New Business: None

MOTION MADE (Commissioner MURPHY) 2nd (Commissioner COSTANTINI) to
ADJOURN the Police Commission Meeting at 6:28PM. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION
CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted:

Jo-Ann C. Nanni
Clerk of the Commission