



Town of Trumbull

TRUMBULL POLICE COMMISSION

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POLICE COMMISSION

RAYMOND G. BALDWIN, JR., CHAIRMAN
ANGELO MAGLIOCCO, VICE CHAIRMAN
KATHLEEN CHAMPION, COMMISSIONER
CHRIS TREFZ, COMMISSIONER
ALBERT ZAMARY, COMMISSIONER

Trumbull Police Commission Meeting
Trumbull Police Department
April 13, 2021

MINUTES

The Trumbull Police Commission meeting was called to order via virtual at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Raymond G. Baldwin, Jr., Chairman
Angelo Magliocco, Vice Chairman
Kathleen Champion, Commissioner
Chris Trefz, Commissioner

Also Present: Chief Michael Lombardo
Deputy Chief Leonard Scinto

Absent: Albert Zamary

Chairman Baldwin welcomed new Commissioner Kathleen Champion to the Board.

Public Comment

Opened Public Comment at 6:02 pm.

There were no public comments. Public Comment was closed at 6:02 p.m.

Approval of the March 9, 2021 Police Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made to accept the Police Commission Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2021 as presented. Motion made first by Commissioner Magliocco, seconded by Commissioner Trefz. There was no further discussion. Motion passed with one abstention, Commissioner Champion.

Chief's Report

Correspondence

Chief Lombardo went over the memo regarding the Annual Evaluation of Assistant Chief Glenn Byrnes. Chief Lombardo indicated that AC Byrnes was Deputy Chief for almost 14 years and has been in his current rank since May of 2018. AC Byrnes assists Chief Lombardo with the Administrative Services, which include the Detective Division, Professional Standards, Training Division, Budget, Finance, the facility and the Department Fleet, Records Division and Scheduling. AC Byrnes was part of the oversight of the Building Renovation Projects and other Administrative Services as directed by Chief Lombardo's office. AC Byrnes has extensive knowledge of investigations as previously mentioned he oversees the Detective Division, he oversees the general management of the budget, etc. AC Byrnes is reliable, professional and a steadfast employee. He works very well with contractors, town employees and Chief Lombardo relies on him greatly.

Chairman Baldwin echoed what Chief Lombardo commented on AC Byrnes, he has been a great rock to the Department, and AC Byrnes is the only graduate from the Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) National Academy in Quantico.

Chief Lombardo went over the memo regarding the Annual Report of Deputy Chief Leonard Scinto. DC Scinto has been with the Department since 1984, Deputy Chief since May of 2018 and was a Lieutenant for almost five years. DC Scinto commands the Uniform (Patrol) Division, which is the largest Division of any police department and encompasses the Support Services, which include the Emergency Management, Animal Control, Emergency Response Team, etc. DC Scinto is on call 24 hours a day as is AC Byrnes and Chief Lombardo. During the pandemic, DC Scinto was very helpful in guiding the day-to-day changes to reduce the contact that the officers had with one another and the public during all the changes with the CDC guidelines. DC Scinto assists the Chief in managing the Department and Chief Lombardo is very happy, as DC Scinto is an asset to the Department. Chief Lombardo is happy that DC Scinto will be staying on with the Department for another year.

Chairman Baldwin echoed what Chief Lombardo commented on DC Scinto, he has been a tremendous asset to the police department over the years and particularly as a member of the senior leadership team of the Trumbull Police Department. Chairman Baldwin is very proud and grateful that DC Scinto is with the Department and grateful he will be staying on another year.

Letters from students were received thanking the officers for their services and keeping the families and community safe.

Letter to Captain Golding was received from a Trumbull resident, who was involved in an incident last summer at the Trumbull Shopping Center. Someone had grabbed his two and a half year old child while they were sitting in the Food Court and they were

able to stop the person from doing anything further to the child. Officer Ball responded to the incident and over the next few weeks, the suspect was apprehended. The case is still pending in the court.

Operations

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Calls for Service Report for the month of March, which showed 1621 calls.

The Motor Vehicle Enforcement Report for the month of March showed 151 Motor Vehicle stops. The officers are making more contacts with the public. Chief Lombardo is not too concerned about tickets being issued. The Chief does believe it is important to make contact with the public, which deters crime, and people will be more compliant with the motor vehicle laws.

The Criminal Activity Report for the month of March showed 61 incidents in total. There were 46 Larceny/Shoplifting for the month of March. There was only one Theft from Motor Vehicle for the month of March. There were four Burglaries for the month of March. There were ten Thefts from Motor Vehicles for the month of March. The officers responded to 117 Burglar Alarms for the month of March.

Incident Statistics Report for the month of March showed 1619 cases.

The SRO Reports showed the Activities for SRO Bartosik, Duva and Federowicz for the month March. There have been complaints about vehicles backing up on Daniels Farm Road for Daniels Farm School. This is occurring because many parents are driving their children to and from school. Officer Duva, the Traffic Division, DC Scinto and the Schools have worked on a solution for the traffic.

The K-9 Monthly Activity Report for the month of March showed the training, meetings and cases.

For the month of March, there were five juvenile referrals.

The Arrest Summary Report for Adults showed there were 22 arrests for the month of March.

Traffic Division

The Traffic Report showed 54 cases for the month of March that Officer Siljamaki handled. Memo to Patrol Supervisors to read at Line-Up of Traffic Issues/Complaints received and to have the Patrol Officers conduct traffic enforcement in those areas listed.

Chairman Baldwin asked for an update on the Daniels Farm School and Booth Hill School traffic.

Chief Lombardo reported that the Daniels Farm School traffic has been re-routed to Jog Hill Road and Chalon Road. There was a significant amount of communication with Public Works Department, the Police Department and the residents. The residents were made aware this would be occurring and would be temporary.

DC Scinto reported that last month the Department worked with William Maurer of Engineering and George Estrada of Public Works. There was a walkway/path that was modified and improved for cars to travel on which alleviated the traffic on Daniels Farm Road. Parents who drive their children to and from school have been re-routed to Jog Hill Road and Chalon Road. This has been working out well and there have been no complaints. Booth Hill School is another concern; the access road to the school has a steeper grade and curve in which William Maurer indicated it is impractical to re-engineer for vehicles to use.

Chief Lombardo informed the Commission that the traffic on Chalon Road is only one-way into the school. Chalon Road is not used as a two-way traffic for Daniels Farm School. The Traffic Division has monitored the area and everyone is being respectful of not blocking residents' driveways.

Detective Division Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Detective Division Monthly Activity report for the month of March. The division had 33 open cases, 13 new cases and closed four cases for the month of March.

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Monthly Status Report for March. Fourteen vehicles were reported to have been entered. Every one of these cars was left unlocked. There has not been one car that he is aware of that has been broken into. Chief Lombardo reminded residents to lock your vehicles, do not leave keys and do not leave valuables.

Training

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Training Report for the month of March. Chief Lombardo commented under the Community Policing, Officer Laaser met with a student at Booth Hill School who is deaf and arrangements were made with her teachers for her to meet Officer Laaser, who is fluent in sign language. Officer Laaser met with the student and explained to her why he was there, what police officers do and are here to help her and anyone. Chief Lombardo would like Officer Laaser to continue visiting the school. He wants all students to feel comfortable with the police officers.

Chief Lombardo reported that some of the training continues to be by zoom but there has been some in-person training as well.

Cadet Report

The Cadet Activity Report showed meetings for the month of March. There was a financial review done for the Cadet Post. The Cadet Post Program has a checking account and Chief Lombardo likes to make sure that an audit is done periodically. Chief Lombardo has no reason to believe otherwise but he just wants to make sure that the proper accounting is done with the funds that are entrusted to the Cadet Post Program. Sgt. Coppola who has some training in financial crimes reviewed the last audit and was asked again to do another audit. Sgt. Coppola found everything in order. Sgt. Coppola made some recommendations but again everything was found in order with the checking account.

Sick/Injury Report

Chief Lombardo reviewed the sick/injury report for the department for March.

Chairman Baldwin asked about the Light Duty tally for the month of March and why it is high.

Chief Lombardo indicated he believes it was for one of the Detectives that was out for several months due to shoulder surgery. The Detective wanted to return to work and Chief Lombardo is happy to bring any officer back on Light Duty, as it is good for them mentally and good for the Department.

Budget

Chief Lombardo reviewed the Budget Report. The one section that the Chief brought to the Commission's attention is the Salary Line; this has been brought to the Commission's attention before. When the Trumbull Police Union settled the Contract, there were three years of raises that were not adjusted in the budget when it was presented last year. The Chief believes there was a 2 ¼%, 2% and a 2 ½% raise that naturally compound but was not included in that budget. That is the major reason why the Salary Line account is 1% behind for year-to-date. The Chief know the Town of Trumbull has the funds but it is in a Contingency Account, which has not been transferred to the Salary Account yet. The Chief believes the money will be very tight this Fiscal Year if funds are not moved from the Contingency Account to the Salary Line account. The Chief believes the Department will end within budget again this Fiscal Year.

Chief Lombardo asked if there were any specific questions pertaining to the current year to date budget. There was none.

Chairman Baldwin asked regarding update on the Police Accountability Bill.

Chief Lombardo reported that the Police Accountability Bill was voted on last week and signed by the Governor so, it is Law now. The Use of Force portion that a lot had concern with because of the wording in some of the Bill. Where it said officers must exhaust alternative types and levels of Use of Force. Chief Lombardo indicated

sometimes you cannot, unfortunately, for example. If an officer walks into a very bad situation and you could not use verbal commands or use less lethal force or are not able to back out from a room there are so many different circumstances. The officer may not be able to exhaust those ways to avoid using force and thankfully it is not often but we do not want our officers to be in unreasonable, more unsafe situations than they are in already. The Legislators did change the wording that they had discussed in July. In Chief Lombardo's opinion, the wording is more reasonable than what it was. The Connecticut Chiefs of Police Association, Chief Lombardo and Commissioner Baldwin addressed some of the line-up early last July to let the officers know that they are doing all they can to make sure the Police Accountability Bill becomes law is reasonable. Chief Lombardo reported that the Use of Force portion does not become effective until January of 2022 because the Chiefs of Police Association felt it was impractical to get it in place by April or July. There are about 8,500 Police Officers in the State of Connecticut. The Chiefs of Police Association want to make the lesson plan that would ultimately be approved by the Police Training Council in Meriden that is practical and will work. The last thing they want is to train the officers and not train them properly. Some of the other parts of the Police Accountability Bill are Drug/Steroid Testing, which has already started, every three years when an officer has to do their re-certification the officer will go through that testing. There is a cost to the Town, but everything possible is being done to keep the cost low. This is an unfunded mandate by the State that all of the Municipalities have to comply with. There are several unfunded mandates, every five years every officer has to go through a physiological screening. It is not a full complete fitness for duty but it is a 45-minute meeting with a therapist or psychologist. Another mandate is for every garment the officer wears must have their name and badge adhered to the outside of their clothing. That is a big expense. The First Selectman's office has been made aware of the additional costs that will be occurring.

Old Business

Building Renovation

Commissioner Magliocco welcomed Commission Champion to the Police Commission Board.

Commissioner Magliocco reported that the Police Station Building renovation is getting close to the end. The fence to buffer the noise has been completed. The Committee is waiting for an invoice from Public Works to pay for the work done. There was an issue with the venting; Bismarck took care of that right away. There are a couple little items on the Town side that still need to be completed.

Commissioner Magliocco indicated AC Byrnes was very instrumental with the Building Renovation project. AC Byrnes made the project a lot easier for Commissioner Magliocco and former Commissioner Labella. Commissioner Magliocco hopes to report at the next meeting that the project is complete and can go before the Town Council.

Commissioner Trefz thanked the Committee and indicated the project came out great.

Chief Lombardo indicated that Commissioner Champion recognized the cleanliness of the Police Building. A compliment to the officers doing a good job in keep the building clean and Chief Lombardo could not say enough about the building's Custodian Chris Heonis.

New Business

None.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Magliocco and seconded by Commissioner Trefz to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Munoz
Clerk of the Commission