

MINUTES
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
June 12, 2023

PRESENT: Chairman Ed Tessman, Commissioners Dom Morelli and Lynn Hidek

Also present: Chief DeMaio, Captain Jakober, Captain DePietro, Dennis Donovan, Sergeant Varone and Nancy Barone

Absent: Commissioner Derry and Commissioner Melanson

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Tessman. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from the Public:

Nancy Barone explained that there has been an issue with dirt bikes, go carts and golf carts being operated by teenagers on Shore Road in the evenings on weekends. A request was made for increased patrols and Chief DeMaio advised Barone and her neighbors to call when it is occurring so patrol units could respond.

A non-resident had questions regarding how our Police Commission worked as he had concerns regarding his local commission. Chairman Tessman answered any questions that he had.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hidek, seconded by Commissioner Morelli to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 regular meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Correspondence:

Chairman Tessman acknowledged the great work the department members do and keep up the great work.

Traffic Authority:

- Cow Hill Road update-a three way stop sign was installed and the Fire Department water tanks will be installed. DPW will re-engineer the roadway once it is completed. Chief DeMaio complimented the work done by DPW Director Todd Hajek and his employees.
- Indian River update- hold up with getting the north side entrance open is due to a requirement of breakaway stanchions by the DOT. These parts are on back order with no anticipated deliver date.
- Grove Street/Leffingwell Road Update-Correspondence had previously been received regarding speeding concerns and pedestrian safety. DPW installed two high visibility crosswalk signs and traffic enforcement is occurring. A speed survey will also occur.
- Cream Pot Road-Fire Chief requested a fire lane be installed. Chief DeMaio recommended the Commission approve that request to have DPW install signage. A motion was made by Commissioner Hidek to have DPW install no parking/fire lane signs on Cream Pot Road, seconded by Chairman Tessman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chief's Report:

- Many of the tests mandated by the Police Accountability bill have cost more than predicted so it will impact that line item. Recruitment testing has impacted the budget.
- Chief DeMaio discussed the State of the Department report and answered any questions the Commissioners had.
- Justice Navigator Report was shared with the public on June 7, 2023 in the Town hall auditorium at 6 pm. There was also a community round table meeting at the Henry Carter Hull library on June 8th. Chairman Tessman commended the men and women of the department and advised that we are only one of three agencies in Connecticut to open our doors to the public and share data.
- Officer Erin McCarthy was released to full duty on June 10, 2023.

- The Department has remitted two seats for the July POSTC academy.

- Contracts expire June 30, 2023 and negotiations are underway.
- Town Budget Referendum May 10, 2023 passed without any issues
- Marine patrol-will be difficult to staff due to manpower shortages.
- Lunch and Learn scam talk was conducted in collaboration with the Clinton Seniors Director, Christina Acampora. It was a great success with 75 attendees. There will be future classes offered.
- Promotional testing to occur for Sergeant and Corporal with the anticipated retirement of Sergeant Carlson.
- Investigative Section- Special assignment interviews occurred and it was decided to leave the assignment 6-months due to Union negotiations and future staffing issues.
- Torch Run occurred and approximately \$6000.00 was raised for Special Olympics so far
- Tip A Cop- June 20th at Chips Pub
- Citizens Academy graduation occurred
- CALEA- All Written Directives are completed. A request will be made to CALEA for an on-site visit at the end of August. The fall conference is in November and that is when the award would be received.

Captain Jakober's Report:

- Active Shooter training to occur
- Table top exercise training to occur
- Testing and Purchasing of new department firearms
- Records Division purging records that are set for destruction.

Captain DePietro's Report:

- Captain DePietro provided the Commissioners with the monthly reports.
- Patrol schedule has been finalized and it was done so that there are no open shifts which would cause overtime, this does not include regular book offs for sick and vacation days.
- Marine schedule- coverage on weekends Beginning July 1, 2023
- International Food fest and Summerfest preparedness

Old Business:

- Commissioner Hidek revised the Awards and Recognition general order. Changes include language changes, commission member voting rights, quarterly meetings. An awards Ceremony will occur annually in October. Discussion occurred on types of awards and Commissioner Hidek thanked Sergeant Varone for all of his assistance.

New Business:

- Five-year Plan-Chief DeMaio explained that he would like the Commission to provide input on a document which he will draft and how to achieve those goals. Chairman Tessman requested the commissioners provide him with their thoughts and ideas by mid-July so it could be reviewed in August.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Morelli, seconded by Commissioner Hidek. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Shove
Executive Assistant
Police Chief