



STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
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A regular meeting of the Stamford Police Commission was held on Monday, January 7, 2013 at 5:00pm at Stamford Police Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were Commissioner Mark Larobina, Commissioner Michael Berkoff, Commissioner Milton Thomas, II, Commissioners Frank Mercede and Commissioner Cheryl Palmer. Also present was Ex-Officio Chief Jonathan Fontneau, Assistant Chief James Matheny, Sgt. Jennifer Pinto, Sgt. Ryan Devanney and Director Ted Jankowski.

The meeting was called to order at 5:04pm by Commissioner Palmer and seconded by Commissioner Thomas all in favor.

Review of Minutes

Commissioner Palmer made a MOTION to correct the December 10th page two minutes by taking out Commissioner Thomas' name as it was typed twice. Commissioner Mercede made a MOTION to accept the minutes as amended and Commissioner Thomas seconded it.

Sgt. Pinto recommended that two candidates be removed from the certified candidate list. Abdelazim Elashazly most of his contact information is not updated and states he cannot be reached. His past employer believes he went back to Egypt and Timothy Schoen he has two previous polygraphs one in 2007 and one in 2011. He can't seem to keep any of his stories straight – alcohol, illegal drugs, drug activity. Commissioner Palmer made a MOTION to remove them from the list and Commissioner Berkoff seconded it. All were in favor.

Good Conduct by Police Officer

Chief Fontneau wanted to touch base on how wonderful our Police Officers were in volunteering and responding to help out Newtown Police. We did traffic control and funeral escorts. One of our Motorcycle Officers was struck by a car during a funeral escort and injured. Not one Officer put in one dime of overtime.

Commissioner Awards

None

Grievance

Human Resources contacted Chief Fontneau and advised that the SPA wanted to postpone the grievance and asked if we had any problems with this and we did not but the Union could withdraw if they so choose.

Comments from the Public

None

Discussed Role of Police Commission. Chief Fontneau researched what the role of the Police Commission is. Chief Fontneau posed the question what do we discuss in open forum meetings? Do we discuss A & O, do we talk about the budget, do we talk about personnel matters? It looks like we discuss hiring, firing, promotions, appeals. The Commission is also responsible for signing on Equipment Replacement Forms. Commissioner Palmer requested that Corporate Counsel review the Charter and give us an interpretation/opinion. The Commission makes sure that the Chief is doing his job.

Commissioner Berkoff asked about Equipment Replacement Forms and was told why it is done. Commission will sign off on them.

Commission asked if we should go ahead with our current agenda or ask for an opinion. Commissioner Palmer requested an opinion. Commissioner Berkoff asked Chief Fontneau how he felt; he said to go ahead with present agenda and the Commission agreed.

Commissioner Larobina made it clear that it is not his personal agenda to remove everyone from Executive Sessions, it is not his personal interpretation, this is what was related to him from Corporation Counsel and HR to be followed. Commissioner Larobina will contact Corporation Counsel or a third party for interpretation of what an Executive Session is. Commissioner Larobina made a MOTION to write to Corporate Counsel and have a written interpretation of what is an Executive Session. Commissioner Mercede seconded it all were in favor.

Administration and Operations

Chief Fontneau spoke on current crime. Shots fired, two masked men on 40 Diaz Street, three shots fired at a Hispanic male luckily he was not injured but had money taken from him. An attempted robbery a block away same type of robbery two masked men.

We had a situation whereby we had a prisoner taken in by marshals-the prisoner was not intoxicated when apprehended but was intoxicated when he arrived at headquarters. Investigation turned out that the marshals bought him a bottle of vodka on the way in and he chugged it down. He became so drunk he fell down in our jail and hit his head. Arrest warrant done for the marshals.

Suicide of a 45 year old person who hung themselves.

Robbery of a waitress on lower Summer Street. She was in her car counting her tips-person came by, saw it and took her money then ran off.

Shooting at MaryAnn's Restaurant suspect shot off his weapon and was taken into custody.

Armed Robbery at the Bottle Shop Liquor Store by two men. They were masked and three shots were fired. Liquor Store owner thought it was a guy fooling around and did not report it until the next day.

ATM burglary at the Sunoco Station on High Ridge Road. A guy drove in and took \$15,000 from the ATM.

Arrested an attorney for embezzlement. He was taking money from an elderly female whom he was working for.

Our SVU unit was very busy with 21 home visits, 14 new SVU cases, applied for 16 warrants and seized 7 guns. Had a real bad domestic where there was a heated argument, the male was stabbed and then ran over the female as she tried to stop him.

We had three cases of people with diminished capacity this month with sexual assaults on each one.

Juvenile Bureau had 32 arrests 6 which were sexual assaults 5 were child porn cases. Bullying on a school bus. Three students repeatedly hit a six year old with a belt. WHS they had an incident were two 14 year old girls were fighting in school premeditated one of the young ladies brought a bottle of bleach threw it at the other person. Hit her in the eye. Assailant got most of the bleach on herself. Both went to the hospital for treatment.

Commissioner Larobina asked Chief Fontneau to talk about Safety in Schools. A/C Matheny is spearheading quite a bit of it. Board of Finance and Board of Ed meeting held to discuss what we would do in our Schools. Assessments are being done in each

of the public schools. Visiting private schools as well. The assessment entails have two officers go out and do an assessment of the school. Lt. D. Hohn and Sgt. J. Kennedy are doing this. Meeting with school administrators and we are meeting with the Fire Marshals and John Perrotta. It is a team effort. Administration was told we would be back with our assessment within 40 days. In the meantime our officers are doing stops at every school during the day getting out of the car and meeting with staff.

Personnel Issues

Grievance Appeal postponing without prejudice

Old/New Business

Letters of second appeal by two candidates. One letter from Mr. Johnson was forwarded to HR – Emmet Hibson. No response yet. Another letter came to Headquarters from Mr. Letezeio requesting a second appeal. Commissioners discussed that at the Special Meeting it was decided that the appeal process was final and that no further action would be considered. The Commission stated no further action is necessary on these.

Chief Fontneau stated that we will be putting 10 more recruits in the Academy in April. 25 hires for this year.

Commissioner Mercede asked about filling the vacant A/C position. Chief Fontneau informed him that we are waiting approval to hire.

Commissioner Palmer made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Berkoff.

There being no further business to discuss at the meeting it was adjourned at 5:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Larobina
Chairman