



STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
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A regular meeting of the Stamford Police Commission was held on Monday, February 4, 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, Lt. Eugene Dohmann, Sgt. Jennifer Pinto, Sgt. Ryan Devanney and Captain Richard Conklin.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Commissioner Larobina and seconded by Commissioner Thomas all in favor.

Review of Minutes

Commissioner Thomas mentioned the correction of the word Counsel in the January minutes. Commissioner Thomas made a MOTION to accept the minutes with the correction, Commissioner Palmer seconded and all were in favor.

Good Conduct by Police Officer

Chief Fontneau will incorporate this during the Administration and Operation section.

Commissioner Awards

None – Chief Matheny will have awards presentations for next meeting.

Comments from the Public

None

Administration and Operations

Narcotics have been very busy with two separate wire taps. One wire tap took off 15 people one of which was Marvin Wooten who was caught with quite a bit of crack cocaine and took several cars from him. Arrests were also made for people from Bridgeport, Waterbury, Torrington, Norwalk and Stamford.

The second wiretap was for a Mexican National living in a modest home in Stamford – NOC ripped him for \$300,000 cash on him one day, they ripped him the next day for \$200,000 cash on him-did a search warrant on his home and in total took \$811,000 cash from his person and 6 kilos of which is about \$240,000 whole sale.

They also did a search warrant for 63 Standish Road and came up with \$5,000 worth of crack, 2 sawed off shotguns and quite a bit of marijuana.

We had our gun buyback program – we ran 4 of them and a total of 56 firearms were turned in.

Mighty Might Basketball Program is starting up again – we have 120 youths within the city with 3 Divisions. Police volunteer for this program. The age range is 5-12 year olds. The youths are from busy neighborhoods; Southend, Westside and Waterside.

18 Leeds Street had a hostage situation where a young man threatened to take a police officer out by suicide. The SRT and HNT team were present. They finally talked him into coming out. Very nice conclusion with the teams working together with patrol. Commissioner Thomas suggested that the members of the two teams receive Commissioner Awards for their excellent work.

Cove Island we had a 50 year old male, who slipped on the rocks, hit his head and fell into the water and drowned.

Detective Bureau this past month locked up a man for manslaughter 1st degree. It was a homicide that occurred July 8, 2012 on Merle Avenue.

Security Directions Meetings have been started again. Met with Security Directors of all the major corporations' downtown last month. We had 6 *Apple Picking* incidents when we have had 30. With Patrol and NOC working out there it has decreased immensely and our Detective Bureau who has solved them.

Department of Labor and OSHA came down to inspect 4 construction sites. They found some violations.

We have been monitoring all the schools in town. We have a team of D. Hohn and Joe Kennedy who have been to each of the elementary schools and are completing their assessments. They will be making recommendations as to what changes should be made to make the schools safer, what the staff can do. They will train them. Our Patrols are going to every school each day and are getting out and checking the buildings-they are meeting and greeting with the staff.

We started working on a program to have a Chief's night out to meet with different districts. The first will be March 3, 2013 at the Government Center and we will be meeting with the downtown and Westside representatives to hear their concerns.

Internal Affairs has been working very hard on interviews and background checks for hiring.

BCI had a stabbing this New Years on Davenport Street. They arrested someone for Assault 1st Degree. Had another young lady who was stabbed by her boyfriend in the face. We had shots fired on 66 Dan Street and are looking at several suspects. There were shots fired on Brown Avenue and that investigation is open.

Had an armed robbery on Cove Road. We had a sexual assault at 189 Main Street which is a store. 181 Stillwater Avenue we had a robbery. Had a 59 year old man living in his vehicle pass away also a 50 year old man passed away inside the Marriott Hotel.

Had a public indecency arrest.

3 Chinese delivery men were robbed this month. Bureau just made an arrest so two cases have been solved.

Had a burglary on 10 East Ridge Road where the homeowner was home with his 6 year old son. Someone kicked in the front door and fled when he was approached by the homeowner.

SVU was very busy this month with 21 home visits, 37 new domestic violence cases, seized three guns, they also started 5 missing persons cases. We locked up a guy out of Texas. There was a very serious sexual assault that occurred at 37 Greenwich Avenue where a Michael Johnson knocked out his girlfriend, sexually assaulted her and held her against her will. She was able to get away and we are looking for Mr. Johnson.

Juvenile Division was busy with 40 arrests last month. Two new sexual assault cases and 5 child porn cases one of which an arrest was made on Stillwater Road next to Westover School. Arrested a mother who beat her 6 year old son repeatedly with a belt, her hands, her fist and scratched his face.

Chief Matheny has several commendations for next month mainly from Patrol. In January we responded to 11,352 calls for service, made 231 arrests. Our accident numbers were down considerably. Made 3150 motor vehicle stops and stopped 280 suspicious people. Uniform patrol officers are very busy. Our overtime was down and we are busier than ever. Chief Fontneau pointed out that our overtime is down 11%.

Commissioner Berkoff made a MOTION to approve equipment reimbursement for three officers. Commissioner Thomas seconded and all were in favor.

Commissioner Larobina requested a brief recess at 5:23pm to review candidate packets. Came out of recess at 5:29pm and went directly into Executive Session due to the fact that they are dealing with Personnel Issues. The Commission and Chief Fontneau were present in the Executive Session.

Came out of Executive Session at 5:40pm

Personnel Issues

Commissioner Palmer made a MOTION to remove the following candidates from the Certified List and Commissioner Thomas seconded. All were in favor. Commissioner Larobina abstained from Keith Zaffuto due to the fact that he works at Greenwich Hospital.

James Arpaio
Nicholas Aviles
Francis Foti
Richard Risteen
Keith Zaffuto
Alina Gawronski

Shawn McKenna
Blake Pierce
Nicholas Mogg
John Winter
Luciano Fukumon
Kelly Mills

Old/New Business

Commissioner Mercede touched on the letter from Mathew Grech regarding a second appeal and it was decided by the Commission that no further action will be taken regarding Matthew Grech. Their decision stands.

Commissioner Palmer wanted to know if there will be any Assistant Chief recommendations next meeting from Chief Fontneau. Chief Fontneau stated he has to choose someone and it will be soon.

We will have between 15-20 candidates from the certified hiring list to interview at the next meeting. The Commission would like the meeting to be held at 4:00pm. Sgt. Pinto brought up that two candidates will be interviewed that were already interviewed last time. Would the Commission like just their packet or re-interview them. Since nothing has changed from the last interview they would like to review their packets.

There being no further business to discuss Commissioner Thomas made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Berkoff.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Larobina

Chairman