



MINUTES OF THE SUFFIELD POLICE COMMISSION
Police Headquarters - 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT 06078
27 April 2022 – Regular Meeting

Commissioners: Vice Chairman Anthony Greco, Jason Trombly, Terrence Plakias, Joesph Blake and Kristina Hallett

Also Present: Chief James Canon Jr. and Captain Robert Palmer

Absent: Chairman Kenneth Pascoe

Vice Chairman Anthony Greco called the regular police commission meeting to order at 7:02pm and recognized all commissioners and staff in attendance except for Chairman Kenneth Pascoe.

Public Comment:

None

Local Traffic Authority: Chief Canon reported that there was Local Traffic Authority Meeting which had a presentation on a traffic study. It included suggestions for roundabout, lighting, and widening of sidewalks. There was a suggestion to add a roundabout to intersection of Babb's Road and Mountain Road.

Communications and Announcements:

Chief James Canon stated that a Windsor Locks resident reached out to him thanking Sergeant Nelson and Officer Richards for going above and beyond assisting them when their vehicle broke down.

Previous Minutes:

Vice Chairman Anthony Greco asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the February 23, 2022. There was no meeting March 23, 2022.

Vice Chairman Greco made the motion to approve the submitted minutes of the regular meeting held on February 23, 2022 with no changes. There was no meeting on March 23, 2022. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Plakias. With no discussion, the vote carried with Vice Chairman Greco, Trombly, Plakias and Hallett, 4-0-1 in favor, Blake abstained [he was not at the meeting.]

DEPARTMENT / CHIEF REPORT FOR JANUARY: *[All reports are available on the Suffield.gov Website].*

1. **SRO Report – Submitted by Officer Thomas Kieselback**
 - a) There were no comments from the Commission.
2. **Detective's Report – Submitted by Detective Shawn St. John**
 - b) There were no comments from the Commission.

3. Operations Report – Submitted by Lieutenant Ryan Burrell

Lieutenant Burrell's report indicated the following:

- a) **Arrests:**
 - Officers made 3 arrests in the last month. (1)One arrest was Domestic related, (1)one arrest was for driving under the influence and (1)one arrest for assault.
 - b) **Burglaries/Larcenies**
 - On 04/13/22 there was a home burglary with approximately \$100,000 cash stolen from home.
 - a) **Sexual Assault Investigations:**
 - There were none to report.
 - b) **Internet Crimes/Scams:**
 - There have been a large number of internet and phone scams. Even employees are seeing these scams through town email system.
 - c) **Domestic / Mental Health Related:**
 - Officers responded to Nine domestic violence related calls and multiple mental health related calls with (4)four Emergency Examination Requests.
 - d) **Equipment Update:**
 - Delivery has been taken of 2 Dodge Charges and 1 Ford F-150. On 4/28/22 Sergeant Nelson was rear ended and we are awaiting appraisal from Insurance Company.
- 4. Administrative Updates – Submitted by Captain Robert Palmer**

Captain Palmer highlighted on the following:

- a) **Communications:**
 - Dispatcher Rawley is doing very well in position. Awaiting final decision from State on her to be working solo.
- b) **Training:**
 - Captain Palmer stated that personnel will need to go through extensive training for DRE training. Also, would like to have someone in a position with the department that will take on the DRE roll.
- c) **Animal Control:**
 - ACO Selig has been very busy with Bear and wildlife calls.
- d) **Policy Development:**
 - Continue to work on the new policies with Lieutenant Burrell, and Chief Canon.
- e) **Records Management:**
 - Captain Palmer states there is a large number of Records requests. Body Cam footage takes a large of amount of time due mostly to redaction of video.
- f) **Staffing:**
 - Captain Palmer stated while department is fully staffed, there are approximately 3 to 4 retirements in the future. Would like to create a

recruitment program to be prepared. Commissioner Hallet states that there seems to be an increasing difficulty to hire officers.

g) Police Accountability Act / Legislative Issues:

- The Agency continues to make progress towards the accreditation standard set under the Police Accountability Act. Once the records clerk position starts it will give Chief Canon and Captain Palmer more time to focus on this.

5. Commission Meeting Report/Police Budget and ACO Report – Submitted by Chief James Canon

Chief Canon reported on the following:

a) Budget Highlights:

- The salary budget is significantly over budget due to retro pays due to contract. Chief Canon spoke with Finance and First Selectman who informed that there will be a deposit of approximately \$60,000.
- ACO budget is also over budget due to retro pay. Additional costs throughout the year for his firearms training and other expenses.

b) Contract Negotiations:

- All contracts are up for negotiations. Negotiations for Police will start the 2nd week of May. There is no time frame for Dispatch and Clerical contract negotiations.

c) Grants

- JAG grant: An application was submitted for \$20,000 for the purchase of 8 portable radios
- COPS grant: Cops technology grant was applied for and submitted.

d) FY 22-23 Budget:

- The current agreement with River Valley Animal Hospital is still under negotiations.
- Funding for license plate reader cameras and one vehicle have not moved forward.

Commissioner Trombly made the motion to accept the Department / Chief Reports as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Hallett. With no discussion the motion carried with Commissioners Pascoe, Greco, Plakias, Trombly, and Hallett 5-0-0 in favor.

Old Business:

- a) Dispatcher Update:** This item was carried over from previous discussion.
- b) Town Traffic Committee Update:** This item was carried over from previous discussion.
- c) Fire Commission Supplemental First Responder Update:** There has been no new meetings.
- d) Civilian Review Board Training for Commissioners:** There was no information to discuss.

New Business:

- a) Chief / Department Goals 22/23 – Presentation and Discussion:**

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- An evaluation document is in place for Chief Canon. In June 2022 Chief Canon will provide a presentation of goals for year.

Chairman's Update:

Chairman Kenneth Pascoe was not in attendance. Vice Chairman Anthony Greco had no update.

Adjournment:

With nothing further, Vice Chairman Greco made the motion to adjourn the April 23, 2022 regular Suffield Police Commission meeting at 2030 pm, seconded by. The motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting is May 25, 2022.

Respectfully, submitted by,
Susan Smyth
Recording Secretary