

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

Commissioners: Vice Chairman Anthony Greco, Jason Trombly, Joseph Blake and Kristina Hallett.

Absent: Chairman Kenneth Pascoe and Terrence Plakias.

Also Present: Chief James Canon, Captain Robert Palmer, First Selectman Moll, Lieutenant Burrell and Recording Secretary Susan Smyth.

Vice Chairman Greco called the Regular Police Commission meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and recognized all commissioners and staff in attendance except for Terrence Plakias and Chairman Pascoe. Vice Chairman Greco also announced Chairman Kenneth Pascoe's resignation for the Suffield Police Commission. First Selectman Moll stated that the process of looking for a replacement will be done to fill the position for the remainder of Mr. Pascoe's term.

Public Comment:

There was no attendance for public comment.

Local Traffic Authority: Chief Canon reported that there are no updates.

Communications and Announcements:

Commissioner Joseph Blake read a card received from Ride for Backpacks expressing appreciation to Officer Dabkowski and Sargent Nelson.

Previous Minutes:

Vice Chairman Greco asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the June 22, 2022 Commission meeting.

Commissioner Joseph Blake made the motion to approve the submitted minutes of the regular meeting held on June 22, 2022 with no changes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristina Hallett. With no discussion, the vote carried with Vice Chairman Greco, Joseph Blake, Kristina Hallett and Jason Trombly 4-0 in favor.

DEPARTMENT / CHIEF REPORT

1. SRO Report – Submitted by Officer Randy Roman

- a) There were no comments from the Commission.

2. Detective's Report – Submitted by Detective Shawn St. John

- a) 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 (18)Eighteen arrests in the last two months. (2)Two arrests were for driving under the influence (12)Twelve arrests were domestic related (1)One arrest was made by warrant from a residential burglary that occurred in 2021. (1)One arrest was by warrant for business owner that took a large deposit for construction job and never completed the job or returned the money. (1)One arrest resulted from a home owner displaying a gun to fishermen fishing on the suspects shoreline. (1)One arrest was juvenile related. Also, Suffield Officers assisted Enfield Police in locating a homicide suspect on Suffield/Windsor Locks Canal Trail.

b) Burglaries/Larcenies

- Officers responded to several burglary and larceny complaints in the last two months.

a) Sexual Assault Investigations:

- Several sexual assault accusations are being investigated.

b) Internet Crimes/Scams:

- There have been a large number of internet and phone scams. Several complaints regarding unemployment claims being fraudulently made.

c) Domestic / Mental Health Related:

- Officers responded to multiple domestic violence related calls for service. There were (12)Twelve arrests made from those calls. There were multiple mental health related calls. (7)Seven Emergency Examination Reports were completed.

d) Equipment Update:

- The (2)Two Dodge Chargers have been completed and are on patrol. There were (3)Three new Ford Interceptors have been purchased and delivered. Fleet Auto Supply is working on getting the final parts for upfitting of the vehicles.

3. Administrative Updates – Submitted by Captain Robert Palmer

Captain Palmer highlighted on the following:

a) Communications:

- Dispatch personnel are contributing to accreditation requirements.
- A meeting was held with NexGen on July 28th at the Police department to answer questions from the Fire and EMS Services.

b) Training:

- Captain Palmer stated Tier 1 Accreditation started and are attaching policies and the required proofs to Agency compliance.
- The new policies and their review are still moving forward. Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 policies are now back in the hands of the DLG for final approval.

c) Animal Control:

- ACO Selig is busy handling both domestic and wild animal issues.
- ACO Selig will be providing a monthly report in the future for the Police Commission.

d) Policy Development:

- New policies and their review are still moving forward.

e) Records Management:

- Records Clerk has cleared all of the backlog. She is also familiar with video redaction concepts and will be responsible for efforts moving forward. Administrative Assistant to Police Chief is broadening her scope of the department with her own initiative.

f) Staffing:

- Two candidates have been offered conditional offers of employment upon completion of hiring process.

g) Police Accountability Act / Legislative Issues:

- Captain Robert Palmer continues to track bills with law enforcement impact through the General Assembly Bill Tracker. There is significant activity in the legislature.

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

Chief Canon reported on the following:

a) Budget Highlights:

- Previous years budget shortfall was addressed via a shift in funds into the budget approved through the Board of Finance.
- ACO budget is on track.

b) Contract Negotiations:

- All contracts are up for negotiations.

c) Grants

- JAG grant: A grant for \$20,000.00 has officially been approved. The funds are going to be used for (8)Eight portable radios. Current radios are reaching end of life. Also, the entire radio system needs to be addressed.
- COPS grant: Cops technology grant was applied for and submitted. Likely to hear confirmation sometime in September/October 2022.

Commissioner Joseph Blake made the motion to accept the Department / Chief Reports as submitted, seconded by Kristina Hallett. With no discussion the motion carried with Vice Chairman Anthony Greco, Jason Trombly, Joseph Blake and Kristina Hallett 4-0 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 have been no new meetings.
- d) **Civilian Review Board Training for Commissioners:** There was no information to discuss.

New Business:

- a) None

Chairman's Update:

Vice Chairman Greco stated there are no new updates.

Adjournment:

With nothing further, Commissioner Joseph Blake made the motion to adjourn the August 24, 2022 regular Suffield Police Commission meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by Jason Trombly. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully, submitted by,
Susan Smyth
Recording Secretary