



MINUTES OF THE SUFFIELD POLICE COMMISSION
Police Headquarters - 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT 06078
26 April 2023 – Regular Meeting

Commissioners: Chairman Anthony Greco, Jason Trombly, Kristina Hallett and Terrence Plakias.

Also Present: Chief James Canon, Captain Robert Palmer and Susan Smyth

Chairman Greco called the Regular Police Commission meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment:

Paul Christian from 281 Hill Street attended the Police Commission Meeting and would like to thank Chief Canon for working with him on increasing Police presence in the neighborhood. He stated that he has noticed a majority of the speeding cars are residents of the neighborhood and that is very disappointing to him. Mr. Christian would like to continue to work with Chief Canon on this issue. Mr. Christian also inquired to Chief Canon if it is possible to add the number of speeding offenses into the Suffield Observer statistics.

Communications and Announcements:

Communications Secretary Kristina Hallett read aloud a card from a resident Thanking Officer Reagan for rescuing her dog from down a hill.

Communications Secretary Hallett also read an email commending Officer Dabkowski and ACO Selig for coming to the aid of a dying Possum in the process of giving birth. They were very professional, kind and efficient.

Communications Secretary Hallett read aloud a card from Daisy Troop 10961 Thanking Officer Donnelly for giving the Troop a tour of the Department.

A letter was also read that was written thanking Officers for promptly responding to a call that was placed for a slow-moving vehicle that was concerning in an over 55 development late in the evening. They would also like to thank the very pleasant Dispatcher.

Previous Minutes:

Chairman Greco asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the February 22, 2023 and January 18, 2023 Commission meetings. There was no March 2023 Commission meeting held.

Commissioner Jason Trombly made the motion to approve the submitted minutes of the regular meeting minutes with no changes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristina Hallett. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Equipment Update:

- The third Explorer has been upfitted and is on patrol. This was the last cruiser to be built from the 2022-2023 cruiser budget.
- Work is currently being done with DPW mechanics to convert an older cruiser into a School Resource vehicle. We are also converting another old cruiser into a detective vehicle.

Administrative Updates – Submitted by Captain Robert Palmer

Captain Palmers report highlighted on the following:

Communications:

- Dispatch desks are broken and not repairable. We are looking to upgrade the desks so that the standing components work for the dispatchers.
- Dispatch Monitors have been installed and are working well. Further modifications are being looked at to maximize the ergonomic layout of the Dispatch area.

NexGen:

- The system went live on March 27th about 0900. Agency members are becoming more comfortable with the system and feedback has been positive in terms of end user competency, We are working on detailing the system to Suffield PD operations with the addition of specific permissions and drop downs within NexGen. Operational considerations are being made in every facet of SPD work habits to streamline and maximize the potential to fit with the system. Trouble tickets are pending for a variety of issues relative to the system and NexGen has been responsive to requests although some are still pending. There is more training that will be coming after we pass through the initial learning curve.

Training:

- We are working on a possible grant to support the training of 4 personnel in operation of the drone that was donated to the department. This would include the FAA Part 107 licenses as well as hands on training the drone unit.

Policy Development:

- We are working on completing the review of all DLG policies. We have approximately 40 left to review and get back from DLG at this time.

Promotional Exams:

- We are discussing future promotional opportunities and identifying needs for a new Sgt promotional process. We are looking to make the testing entirely relevant to the Suffield Police Department and CT Law Enforcement. There is a CBA aspect to this process so we are engaging the Union in an effort to provide the most effective evaluation process for new Sgts in the Suffield Police Department. DLG provided a quote for the creation and implementation of a testing process for Suffield Police Department.

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