



**MINUTES OF THE SUFFIELD POLICE COMMISSION**  
**Police Headquarters - 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT 06078**  
**October 25, 2023 – Regular Meeting**

**Commissioners:** Chairman Anthony Greco, William Boucher, Kristina Hallett, Michael Siegel, Terrence Plakias and Joseph Blake

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

Chairman Greco called the Regular Police Commission meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Chairman Greco would like to welcome new Commissioner William Boucher.

**Public Comment:**

Meeting was also held Zoom. Cassandra Victor-Vega thanked the Board for having meetings available via Zoom. This makes it very convenient for members of the public to attend meetings if they are not able to do so in person.

**Communications and Announcements:**

Communications Secretary Kristina Hallett read aloud a card from PMC expressing their gratitude to the Suffield Police Department for helping with signage on Hill Street for the Jimmy Fund Kids Ride.

Communications Secretary Hallett also read aloud a card that she had sent to Chief Canon expressing her gratitude for allowing her to sit in on Taser Training. She stated Sgt. Nelson did an Excellent job. Also read aloud was a Certificate of Recognition for ACO Selig for serving as an Instructor at the 2023 Animal Control Officer Training.

**Previous Minutes:**

Chairman Greco asked for a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the August 23, 2023. Commissioner Joseph Blake made the motion to approve the submitted minutes of the regular meeting with no changes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kristina Hallett. Motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

**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 Fuller**
  - a) There were no comments from the Commission.
- 3. ACO Report – Submitted by Ryan Selig**
  - a.) There were no comments from the Commission.

### **Operations Report – Submitted by Lieutenant Ryan Burrell**

Lieutenant Burrell's report indicated the following:

#### **Arrests:**

- Officers made 5 arrests in the last Month.

#### **Burglaries/Larcenies/Motor Vehicle Thefts:**

- In the last month 1 vehicle was stolen and 1 vehicle was burglarized. Officers are also investigating 1 home burglary.

#### **Fraud:**

- Community members are still reporting a large number of fraud and identity theft complaints. The Department is now experiencing a 170% increase compared to 2022.

#### **Domestic / Mental Health Related:**

- Officers responded to approximately 6 domestic violence related calls in the last month with 1 arrest being made. The Department is experiencing a 64% increase compared to 2022.

#### **Equipment Update:**

- One of the new patrol explorers has been completed and is on patrol. Another cruiser is currently being upfitted and the third will be sent in as soon as the second vehicle is done.

### **Administrative Updates – Submitted by Captain Robert Palmer**

Captain Palmers report highlighted on the following:

#### **Communications:**

- Consultants have made their initial walk through and their initial assessment of the radio systems and peripherals. The goal is to replace the radio components and upgrade the physical space.

#### **Training:**

- Eight members are due for POSTC Recert by June 2024. These are members that have a short turnaround from COVID extensions through POSTC.
- Behavioral Health Assessment will be scheduled next in 2024 for members of the Agency to maintain the 5-year requirement.
- Drug Analysis Testing will be completed accordingly for all POSTC recerts that are due in June.

#### **Other Projects:**

- Work continues on the format and content for the mandated annual report based on internal policy requirements and state statute.
- LT and Sgt standardized evaluation guidelines are complete and evaluations will be completed for them in June of 2024. The Police Officer evaluations have been created. The goal will be for the first round of annual evaluations for all personnel to be completed by June of 2024.

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

Chief Canon reported on the following:

**Budget Highlights:**

- The budget appears to be on track with projections at this time. There are no significant issues at this time.
- ACO budget appears on track at this time. There have been a few cases that have resulted in the need for veterinary costs which has impacted the budget.

**Grants:**

- There is discussion with the First Selectman, he has asked the Local Traffic Authority to seek permission for electronic signage at the crosswalks in and around the center of town.
- The State DOT has not yet finished their study of the intersection of Mountain Road and Babbs Road.

**Informational:**

- There has been a Dispatcher vacancy filled as of October 10, 2023. The new dispatcher has started and is in the initial training phases.
- This month 6 members of the Department received training to become pilots of our drone. They are now eligible to take the exam and become certified.
- On the afternoon of Friday, September 29, 2023, a promotional ceremony was conducted at the Police Department for our new Sgt. Justin Fuller.
- On October 10, 2023 Chairman Greco and I attended the Fire Commission Meeting as they were hearing a presentation from Tolland County Dispatch. The Fire Department is looking into the possibility of moving their Dispatch operations to that Facility.

**New Business:**

Commissioner Hallett wanted congratulate Sgt. Fuller on his promotion. Chief Canon stated that Sgt Fuller is adjusting to his new schedule and duties very well.

Commissioner Hallett stated that the Suffield Local Prevention Council has insufficient Board members.

**Old Business**

None

**Chairman's Update:**

Chairman Greco asked if the Commission to let him know who would be interested in the Local Traffic Authority.

**Adjournment:**

With nothing further, Chairman Greco asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Police Commission Meeting. Commission Blake made a motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Hallett. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by, Susan Smyth