

Town of Monroe



BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS
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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS Monroe, Connecticut

Regular Meeting Minutes December 16, 2015

The Monroe Board of Police Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on December 16, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Training Room of the Monroe Police Department.

Present: Chairman Ronald Villani
Commissioner Gary Scrofani
Commissioner James Bresnahan
Commissioner Edward Deak

Also Present: Chief John L. Salvatore
Captain Michael Flick

ROLL CALL

Chairman Villani opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. and noted that all *Board* members were present this evening.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 18, 2015 Regular Meeting were approved by *unanimous consent*.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Susan Waters, 114 Hammertown Road. Ms. Waters distributed a document to the *Board*, the *Chief* and the *Captain* (attached) and stated that she was present this evening to request the *Board* to consider the approval and installation of bicycle safety signs in Town that indicate compliance with the law passed in October of 2008, which requires motorists to allow at least three feet of separation when overtaking and passing cyclists. The signs would be provided free of charge to the Town by Sound Cyclists Bicycle Club. There was some discussion regarding the placement of these advisory signs and the enforceability of the violation. *Chief Salvatore* stated that he would assign a Lieutenant to research this matter. It will be included on next month's Agenda for further discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Salvatore was in receipt of a letter dated December 3, 2015 from Chief Michael Lombardo of the Trumbull Police Department thanking *Lieutenant Keith White* for his assistance at the scene of a fatal motor vehicle accident on November 26, 2015.

Chief Salvatore also was in receipt of an recognition certificate for *Lieutenant Keith White* from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. It was given to the *Chief* at a recent Connecticut Police Chiefs Association meeting to present to *Lieutenant White*. Police Officer Trainee Joshua Paille, who is an Army National Guard helicopter pilot, had submitted the *Lieutenant's* name, on behalf of the Monroe Police Department, as a Patriotic Employer.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Activities and Program Measures: There was discussion regarding the increase in DUI's for the month, as well as the cases received by the *Detective Division* from Patrol.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Commissioner Bresnahan commented that the updated roster list included in the *Board's* folders no longer included the date of hire. The correct one will be provided next month.

Commissioner Scrofani asked whether there is currently a "legal limit" concerning level of intoxication for the use of marijuana, now that it is legal in some states. *Chief Salvatore* stated that at this time, there is not.

Chairman Villani announced that the new Town Council liaison to the *Board* will be Mr. Terry Rooney, who is a retired police officer.

There was discussion regarding a letter received by the Town Attorney and forwarded to *Chairman Villani* and the *Chief* concerning a significant drug problem at Masuk High School. The letter has been passed on to the *Board of Education*, as well. *Chief Salvatore* also has asked *Lieutenant White* to discuss this matter with the *School Resource Officer* at the high school.

BUDGET

A. Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Chief Salvatore stated that there are no major concerns at this time. The New Car Account is slightly over budget due to the purchase of manuals for the updated-design vehicles.

B. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Proposed).

A copy of the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 was provided to the *Board*. *Chief Salvatore* reported that the salaries accounts for the officers and dispatchers do not reflect what the actual salaries will be in 2016-2017, as the union contract for officers expires on June 30, 2016, and the clerical workers contract presently is in wage-reopener negotiations for the third year of their contract. There was discussion regarding various accounts, including Vehicle Expense, New Cars, Salaries-Other and Salaries-Dispatch. There also was discussion regarding body cameras, which will be included in the *Chief's* budget memorandum to the *First Selectman* under Capital Projects.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to conduct this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion Regarding Captain Vacancy.

Chief Salvatore recommended to the *Board* that *Lieutenant Keith White* fill the vacancy left when the *Captain* retires in January. He and the *Captain* are in agreement that *Lieutenant White* is more than competent to take over this assignment and that there is no need to conduct a formal search for a replacement inside or outside the *Department*. Promoting *Lieutenant White* to *Captain* would result in a seamless transition for the *Department*. He has been with the *Department* for 20 years, is well-known within the community and also has the respect of fellow officers and the court system. There was some discussion regarding past practices, as well as the advantages and/or disadvantages of looking outside the *Department*.

MOTION TO APPOINT LIEUTENANT KEITH WHITE AS CAPTAIN OF THE MONROE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion: J. Bresnahan

MOTION TO APPOINT Lieutenant Keith White as Captain of the Monroe Police Department, upon the retirement of Captain Michael Flick, on the basis of the recommendation of Chief Salvatore.

Second: E. Deak

Discussion: None.

Motion Passed: 4-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned by *unanimous consent* at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Stochmal

Sandra A. Stochmal, Recording Secretary
Board of Police Commissioners

/sas

Attachment

**TOWN OF MONROE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF OF POLICE**

TO: Board of Police Commissioners
FROM: Chief John L. Salvatore
SUBJECT: November Monthly Report
DATE: December 16, 2015

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM MEASURES:

In November the Detective Division received 47 cases from Patrol and initiated another 16 investigations. Two cases were cleared by arrest, and 14 were closed by other means (civil matter, restitution, considered inactive, assist other jurisdiction, etc.). Seven arrest warrant applications were submitted to court, and six warrants were served; no FTA (Failure to Appear) or Violation of Probation warrants were served by Detectives. Eleven search and seizure warrants were issued and executed during the month. Twelve pistol permits were initiated and one other background inquiry was conducted. One Ex-Parte Order was processed for the month.

The Youth Unit received one juvenile case from Patrol and generated another four investigations.

The Patrol Division logged 16 individual criminal charges during November. Patrol officers issued 95 motor vehicle infractions, 105 written warnings, 28 misdemeanor motor vehicle summonses (e.g. suspended operator's license and no insurance coverage), made eight DUI arrests and did not issue any parking tickets.

Patrol Division officers responded to nine Domestic/Family Violence incidents in November, resulting in three arrests.

Prisoner Watch: Personnel performed 43 hours of prisoner watch for the month.

COMPUTER FORENSICS:

External Agency Examinations:

- Assist DEA with examination of two computers concerning a narcotics investigation. *Status:* In Process.
- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of one cell phone concerning a murder investigation. *Status:* Completed.
- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of three cell phones concerning a sexual assault investigation. *Status:* Completed.

Internal (MPD) Examinations:

- Examine six digital devices concerning a child pornography investigation (ICAC).
Status: Completed.

TRAFFIC SAFETY:

Patrol Division officers were assigned to 95 Directed Traffic Details in response to citizen concerns and identified problem locations and offenses.

MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT OF CALLS FOR SERVICE AND ACTIVITY:

Update will be presented at meeting.

PROJECTS:

The workload assessment/DDACTS resource allocation project remains suspended pending town-wide GIS project completion.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

On November 5 Chief Salvatore was one of the presenters for the sixth annual ADAM Underage Drinking Forum at Masuk High School for freshmen and their parents.

There were five child safety seat installation/inspections during the month of November.

TRAINING:

On November 4 - 6, Detective Jeffrey Marcel attended **Basic Crime Scene Processing**, instructed by IPTM at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden.

On November 4, Officer Christopher Silkman attended **Ending Violence Against Women** presented by Tony Porter, co-founder of A Call to Men, a national non-profit association of men and women committed to ending violence against women, at the Lier Retreat Center in Ridgefield.

On November 4 - 5, Lieutenants Rosalie Stuart and Kevin McKellick, one day respectively, attended **TAC Officer Training** for updates and CJIS and COLLECT audit requirements at the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection in Middletown.

On November 18, Lieutenant Kevin McKellick and Records Unit staffers Cynthia Cheatham and Doris Bolduc attended **Records Retention and FOI Requests** training presented by State Librarian LeAnn Power and Assistant State's Attorney Timothy Shugrue at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden.

On November 20, Officers Omar Wahib and Nicholas Franzago attended **Effective Police Interactions with Youth** training, sponsored by the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee in Cromwell.

Sworn personnel completed **Hazardous Materials Response-Awareness Level** online training through SafeResponse Training for Responders.

Members of the Southwest Regional Emergency Response Team (SWRERT) conducted monthly training with the regional team.

Canine teams participated in regular monthly training with their counterparts in the region.

STAFFING:

On October 23, Trainee Michael DeCarli began basic training at the Milford Police Academy. Trainees Paul Mastrony and Joshua Paille will graduate the Connecticut Police Academy basic training course at the December 16 ceremony at Central Connecticut State University. The remaining open sworn officer position was filled by Michael Phillips who will begin basic training in Meriden on December 31.

The open dispatcher position has been filled with the hire of Clark Gingras, who began orientation and training on November 30.

Detective Kelly McFarland remains on extended non-duty injury related medical leave.

Officer Andrew Wall remains on non-duty related extended medical leave.

EVENTS OF INTEREST:

On September 6, 2015 at 00:33 hours, the Monroe Police Department received a report of a robbery of the Buck Stop gas station and convenience store. Responding officers were met at the store by the night manager and the store owner, who reported that approximately 20 minutes prior, a male wearing dark pants, a black hooded sweatshirt and a mask covering his whole face entered the Buck Stop. This male proceeded to place a plastic bag on the counter, implied he had a weapon and told the night manager to fill it with cash. The manager placed an undetermined amount of cash from the register into the plastic bag. The male ran out of the store with the cash in a southerly direction. No vehicle was observed; the night manager was unable observe the race, age or hair color of the robber.

After a two month investigation, members the Monroe Police Department Detective Division developed two suspects, and subsequent investigation revealed that one in particular was the orchestrator and operator of the getaway vehicle for this crime, while the other actually committed the robbery.

Detectives obtained an arrest warrant for the two Newtown residents. One was arrested at his home on November 5, 2015, and after learning of the warrant for his arrest, the other presented himself at the Monroe Police Department on November 10, 2015.

The two men were charged with Robbery 1st Degree, Larceny 3rd Degree and Threatening 1st Degree.

Good evening and thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. My name is Sue Waters and I live at 114 Hammertown Road. I come to you this evening to request the Town of Monroe install '3 Feet Please' signs to promote bicycle safety.

On October 1, 2008, Connecticut signed into law Public Act 08-101, which requires Connecticut motorists to allow at least three feet of separation when overtaking and passing cyclists. Failure to do so could cause motorists to receive a fine. Because of the large disparities in size, weight and speed between bicycles and motor vehicles, cyclists are at a tremendous disadvantage in the result of a collision with a car or truck. This law strives to increase motorist awareness of bicycles, and to make conditions safer by preventing collisions.

To raise public awareness of Connecticut's Three Foot Law, Sound Cyclists Bicycle Club has fabricated road signs which they have been donating to the towns in which they ride. Many members of the Monroe community are members of this club, me included.

To date, Sound Cyclists has donated signs to Bethel (14), Brookfield (32), Easton (8), Fairfield (10), Newtown (32), Norwalk (33), Redding (12), Westport (3) and Wilton (20). In addition to Monroe, they are actively working with Shelton and Trumbull.

With the Rail Trail system running through Monroe, and the number of cyclists who ride local roads, wouldn't it make sense to promote safety for all riders and motorists. Together we can keep cyclists and motorists safe.

I propose signs be placed on the following roads: Hattertown Road (Newtown has signs in place on the portion of road that runs through their town), Fan Hill Road, Pepper Street, Jockey Hollow Road, Cutler's Farm Road, Cross Hill Road, Purdy Hill Road and Elm Street. Signs can be placed on posts with existing street signs, or stand-alone posts. The handout contains illustrations of how other towns have displayed their '3 Feet Please' signs.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sue Waters, 114 Hammertown Road, 203-907-8103



Bethel



Newtown



Westport



Brookfield



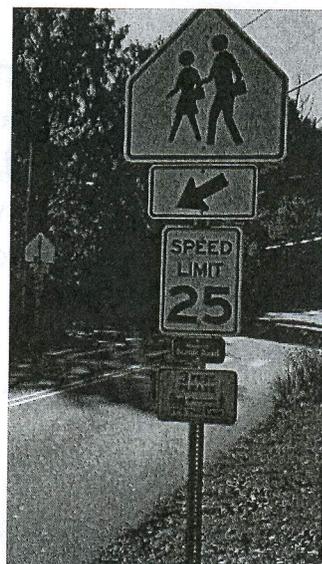
Norwalk



Wilton



Fairfield



Redding