

Town of Monroe



BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS
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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS Monroe, Connecticut

Regular Meeting

Minutes

March 16, 2016

The Monroe Board of Police Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on March 16, 2016, 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
Commissioner William Florin

Also Present: Chief John L. Salvatore
Captain Keith White

ROLL CALL

Chairman Villani opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m. and noted that all *Board* members were present this evening.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 20, 2016 Regular Meeting, which were tabled last meeting due to a lack of quorum, as well as the minutes of the February 17, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved

by unanimous consent, with *Commission Florin* abstaining from voting on the January minutes, as he was not yet a sworn member of the *Board*.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation this evening.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Salvatore was in receipt of an email from Director of Public Works, Christopher Nowacki, in appreciation of the assistance received from *Sergeant Michael Sweeney* with providing and coordinating a solution for Eversource crew members to meet out of the rain during the recent natural gas pressure issue in Town.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Staffing: *Commissioner Deak* asked how many vacancies there were currently in the *Department*. *Chief Salvatore* stated that two positions need to be filled, and a hiring process has been initiated. There are no candidates remaining from the previous process.

Activities and Program Measures, Traffic Safety: *Commissioner Florin* asked about solutions to the identified problem locations in Town. *Chief Salvatore* stated that these problem locations mostly are based upon complaints from residents, rather than statistics. The *Department* has addressed several areas in Town about which complaints are consistently received or where accidents frequently occur and will continue to do so.

Event of Interest: *Commissioner Scrofani* asked about the K-9 assistance from Milford. *Chief Salvatore* stated that the *Department's K-9 Teams* were not available and Milford responded very quickly and were most helpful when the call went out for assistance.

Training: *Chairman Villani* asked about the Open Carry law Roll Call Training. *Chief Salvatore* stated that Connecticut's law does not specify that those who carry must conceal their weapon; however, an officer cannot ask someone who is openly carrying a weapon to see their permit unless there is reasonable suspicion that a crime is taking or has taken place. The Roll Call Training was a review of the law for *Department* officers.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Commissioner Florin asked what protection and/or training is available for officers when leaving the building, especially in the evening, in light of the recent officer ambushed in Maryland. *Chief Salvatore* stated that there is video surveillance at the doors of the building, and officers

are made aware of recent incidents and reminded to continue to be on alert. There was some discussion regarding the lighting around the Town Hall campus.

Chairman Villani had been asked by a resident whether permission must be obtained to erect a temporary sign in Town. *Chief Salvatore* stated that approval to put up a temporary sign comes from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

BUDGET

A. Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Chief Salvatore stated that there are no major or unusual concerns at this time.

B. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (Proposed).

Chief Salvatore reported that he was contacted by the *Director of Finance* last week, who indicated that the *Board of Finance* was returning \$10,000 to the *Department's* Overtime Account and adding \$5,000 to the Emergency Fund and School Account. The addition was due to the *Chief's* concerns regarding the increasing cost to send officers to POST for basic and in-service training, as well as the cost of obtaining vendors for training courses no longer offered at the Academy.

There was some discussion regarding parking tickets.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update Regarding Body Cameras.

Chief Salvatore reported that there is no state bid vendor at this time. *Captain White* reported that he has been in contact with other towns to compare equipment and vendors used and has found that most departments are also in a holding pattern. *Chief Salvatore* stated that there is a lot of concern regarding many of the conditions set in the state policy, as well as the 90-day retention requirement. He and the *Captain* will continue to research the cameras and storage systems and will keep the *Board* updated as this issue moves forward.

B. Update Regarding Bicycle Safety Advisory Signs.

Chief Salvatore reported that *Captain White* reached out to the Connecticut Technology Transfer Center (CTTC) at the University of Connecticut, who certifies the *Department* as a legal traffic authority and teaches various traffic-related courses to police officers and public works departments around the state, to inquire about installing these advisory signs. Their response was to not erect them on Town roads, stating they were not approved signs and explaining the liability that would be placed on the Town if they were installed. *Captain White* has since spoken with Ms. Waters and advised her that unfortunately, due to the Manual on Uniform

Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) recommendations, and after discussion with the CTTC, the Town could not install the signs. She commented that several other towns have responded similarly and thanked him for considering the request.

Chairman Villani reported that he had received a telephone call from Town Attorney John Fracassini regarding the Building Renovations Committee, indicating there was an issue with the surety bond company.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to discuss this evening.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: G. Scrofani

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:32 p.m. and invite the Chief and Captain to discuss personnel matters.

Second: E. Deak

Discussion: None.

Motion Passed: 5-0

At this time, the *Board* went into Executive Session. Executive Session ended at 8:45 p.m., and the Regular Meeting continued.

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, 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: February 2016 Monthly Report
DATE: March 16, 2016

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM MEASURES:

In February the Detective Division received 27 cases from Patrol and initiated another 17 investigations. Three cases were cleared by arrest, and 16 were closed by other means (civil matter, restitution, considered inactive, assist other jurisdiction, etc.). Three arrest warrant applications were submitted to court, and seven warrants were served; 10 FTA (Failure to Appear) or Violation of Probation warrants were served by Detectives. Five search and seizure warrants were issued and executed during the month. Twelve pistol permits were initiated and five background inquiries were conducted. No Ex-Parte Orders were executed for the month.

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

The Patrol Division logged 33 individual criminal charges during February. Patrol officers issued 70 motor vehicle infractions, 80 written warnings, 10 misdemeanor motor vehicle summonses (e.g. suspended operator's license and no insurance coverage), two marijuana infractions, one parking ticket and made six DUI arrests.

Patrol Division officers responded to 11 Domestic/Family Violence incidents in February, resulting in five arrests.

Prisoner Watch: Personnel performed 73.5 hours of prisoner watch for the month.

COMPUTER FORENSICS:

External Agency Examinations:

- Assist DEA with examination of a cell phone concerning a narcotics investigation. *Status:* Completed.
- Assist DEA Police with examination of one cell phone concerning a narcotics investigation. *Status:* Completed.
- Assist Trumbull Police with examination of two cell phones concerning a burglary investigation. *Status:* Completed.

- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of one cell phone concerning a murder investigation. *Status:* In evidence.
- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of multiple media items concerning a voyeurism investigation. *Status:* In Process.
- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of one cell phone concerning a sexual assault investigation. *Status:* Completed.
- Assist Bridgeport Police with examination of two cell phones concerning a sexual assault investigation. *Status:* In Process.

Internal (MPD) Examinations:

- As part of a CTFCTF (CT Financial Crimes Task Force) investigation, examine multiple digital devices concerning an embezzling case. *Status:* In process.

TRAFFIC SAFETY:

Patrol Division officers were assigned to 53 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. However, Lieutenant Kevin McKellick continues to research the methodology used for collection of data and application of deployment alternatives.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

There were eight child safety seat installation/inspections during the month of February.

TRAINING:

On February 9 and 10 Lieutenant Kevin McKellick attended **Use of Force Investigations**, presented by Attorney Eric Daigle at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden.

On February 15 - 19 Sergeant Jay Torreso and Officers John Yaworowski, Mark Caulfield, Amanda Sears and John McAulay attended the Fairfield County Training Officers Association's 35-hour recertification review training at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury.

On February 24 - 26 Sergeant Helio Ramalhete attended recertification review training at the Waterbury Police Department.

Members of the Southwest Regional Emergency Response Team (SWRERT) and personnel assigned to the Trumbull-Monroe Dive Team conducted monthly regional training.

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

Roll Call Training consisted of a review of Public Act 15-216, Open Carry law.

STAFFING:

On October 23, Trainee Michael DeCarli began basic training at the Milford Police Academy, and trainee Michael Phillips began his basic training at the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden on December 31.

Police Officer Trainee Paul Mastrony resigned from the Department. This vacancy will be included with the selection process initiated to fill the position created with the January retirement of Captain Michael Flick.

December 16th academy graduate Joshua Paille interrupted his pre-probationary training due to his military activation by the Department of Defense in early January to join his Army National Guard Unit already deployed in the Middle East. Officer Paille is a commissioned officer and helicopter pilot with the National Guard.

Lieutenant Keith White has been promoted to Captain, Sergeant Stephen Corrone to Lieutenant, commanding the Detective Division, and SRO Michael Sweeney to Sergeant in the Patrol Division.

The process to fill the most recent dispatcher vacancy is underway.

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

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

Officer Karen O'Donnell completed active Naval Reserve duty on February 7 - 19.

EVENTS OF INTEREST:

On February 5th at approximately 0045 hours, patrol officers responded to an active burglar alarm at a Bart Road residence. About five weeks earlier, officers responded to a similar alarm at the same indicated point of intrusion, a basement window. Officers determined that the window's screen was recently cut. Other officers checking the neighborhood discovered a person

walking through the back yard of an area residence. When they approached, the individual fled into adjacent woods at the Northbrook Condominium development. A perimeter was quickly established, and a canine team was requested, which immediately responded from Milford Police. In the meantime, officers observed an individual hiding on the front porch of one of the condos. He was detained and subsequently determined to be one of two Shelton juveniles attempting to burglarize the Bart Road home. The investigation then led to a Shelton home, where the second juvenile offender was discovered by Shelton Police attempting to sneak back into his home while police were speaking with his parents. Both individuals were arrested as juveniles, released to the custody of their parents and their cases referred to Bridgeport Superior Court for Juvenile Matters.