

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held at the Southington Police Department on September 10, 2009. The meeting was held in the Police Conference Room due to the fact that there were no other persons in attendance. Prior to the start of the meeting a sign was posted at the door to the Community Room advising that the meeting had been moved to the Police Conference Room and to go to the Dispatch window if someone had come, after the start of the meeting, and wanted to attend the meeting.

The meeting is called to order by Chairman Verderame at 6:05 p.m.

Commissioners Triano, Bedard, Nevelos and Della Vecchia were present. Chief John Daly was present

The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Commissioner Nevelos.

Chairman Verderame called for motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2009 and the Special Meeting of August 31, 2009.

MOTION made by Commissioner Triano to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2009, seconded by Commissioner Bedard. All in favor, Motion passed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 31, 2009, seconded by Commissioner Nevelos. All in favor, Motion passed.

Chairman Verderame called for a motion to approve billings presented to the Commissioners for payment.

Chief Daly presented a requisition prepared in favor of Perfectemp in the amount of \$3,000 to be used for ongoing service to the Department's heating and air conditioning system.

Chief Daly also presented a memorandum prepared by Capt. Greg Simone concerning the attic air conditioning unit servicing the communications equipment room. The memorandum basically discussed the ongoing problems with the attic air conditioning unit and the communications equipment room and the issue that much money had been spent in an attempt to correct the attic unit over the years and it has been serviced by many different vendors.

Perfectemp (our HVAV vendor) has advised that it would not be cost effective to put any more money into the attic unit. It is suggested that a new ductless unit be purchased and mounted on the wall inside the equipment room to cool and circulate the existing air. No outside air would be used and no ductwork is necessary. A quote of \$6,510 was secured which included the price of the unit and installation.

After discussion, all Commissioners felt it was necessary to move forward with the quote from Perfectemp. Chief Daly would check with Attorney Sciota to make sure that the item did not have to go out to bid. Discussion centered around the fact that Perfectemp was the vendor of choice based on bids submitted prior to this fiscal year. Chief Daly would double check however.

Commissioner Triano questioned what else had been a problem in this building beside the air conditioning unit. Chief Daly responded the doors in and out of the Department building are a problem with security. Commissioner Triano asked if one contractor had completed all the different areas in the building. Chief Daly responded no and in fact some vendors/contracts such as the security doors used lock manufacturers that come in with specific low cost locks which allowed for a lower price to complete a job. However, when something goes wrong and if you go back to that certain manufacturer the cost to replace becomes exorbitant.

Commissioner Triano then suggested that the air conditioning vendor as well as the door lock vendors should be reported to Mr. Tranquillo and Attorney Sciota to have them removed from the Town's list for no further consideration in the future. He further suggested a call to Consumer Protection might be in order.

Chief Daly reiterated the original vendors are not the current vendors being used by the Department. Commissioner Nevelos also commented that sometimes the lowest bidder is not the best vendor to use for any given job. Short discussion took place amongst the commissioners on the Town's policy concerning the lowest bidders for any given job.

MOTION made by Commissioner Triano to approve the requisition presented concerning Perfectemp for the \$3,000 for ongoing services to the heating and air conditioning system as well as the quote for \$6,510 also from Perfectemp pending confirmation from Attorney Sciota that no additional quotes are necessary, seconded by Commissioner Della Vecchia. all in favor, Motion passed.

Chairman Verderame requested Chief Daly to give his report to the Commissioners.

Chief's Report –

Chief Daly reported on the activities of the Department's School Resource Officer, William Santarsiero for the week August 31 to September 5, 2009 as follows:

A juvenile defendant was summoned into Juvenile Court for possession of less than four ounces of marijuana on campus, Superintendent of Schools notified.

A theft of personal athletic items from student hall lockers and a follow-up revealed several locks in the area were able to be opened easily due to a maintenance issue.

Two minor vehicle collisions occurred in the 200 block of east bound Flanders Street involving a student who rear ended T-2 in the stop and go morning traffic. The vehicles were pulled into the SHS lot and report completed.

Special Education student stabbed himself in the head with a pencil at least seven times. Upon being treated by school nurse the student stated his intent to harm himself. Student transported to BMH for an emergency mental health evaluation per school resource officer's request.

Campus security issue. An employee of a private company was working in the "pit" area (wrestling room/new exercise facility) and was leaving a ground level east side perimeter door ajar for his ease of ingress/egress. Individual contacted and advised to cease propping door.

Upcoming events would be the welcome back dance for all grades on September 11, 2009 and the SHS football game versus Hall High School on September 16, 2009.

Chief Daly further reported the school resource officer would be attending recertification training on October 6 through October 8th, 2009.

Next issue, Chief Daly informed that Mr., Cox from the Board of Education had some questions about the new turn around at DePaolo Middle School. Currently the exiting is to the right or to the left. The Board of Ed was looking to see if the exit could be made to the right only. Chief Daly indicated that Lt. Ed Pocock had looked into the issue and noted that it was not necessary and a reply was forwarded to Mr. Cox. Chief Daly commented that the issue will be continuously monitored to make sure there are no problems.

Next item Chief Daly informed Commissioners that the Department continues to have the officers walk around the Center of Town. Sgt. Spratto had conducted a community relations activity on September 10, 2009 randomly going into several businesses and spoke with the owners/managers to ascertain if there were any problems and Sgt. Spratto had reported the following:

The manager of Pepper Pot, Ms. Carmen Lukawecki stated that she appreciated the SPD checking the downtown businesses and she was grateful that an unsecured door was found by the police last week. She further stated that she liked seeing a police presence in this area around 4:45 a.m. when the Pepper Pot is getting ready to open. She also stated the parking situation in down town is good.

The manager of Fire & Smoke Shop, Mr. Jeff Lepage said that he currently had no concerns/problems that he would like to discuss.

Ms. Paula Pierson, the owner of Paul Gregory's Bistro at 148 Center Street said although there were no problems, she was concerned that on Sept. 5, 2009 she saw several intoxicated persons walking around at an event that was in the municipal parking lot across from Paul Gregory's. She further stated she appreciated the police stopping into her business.

Ms. Maria Riccitelli, the owner of Massimo's Café said that she had no concerns/problems that she would like to discuss.

Pam DePaolo and Val DePaolo, the owners of DePaolo's Furniture stated that they had concerns with parking in the down town area. They reported that on occasions, vehicles are parked on the sidewalk, vehicles are illegally parked on Center Place to the point where delivery trucks and fire trucks are not able to freely pass and sometimes vehicles are parked over the time limit. Sgt. Spratto advised them to contact the Police Department when these incidents occur and he would also notify our patrol personnel to be aware of this during their patrol tours. They both stated that they appreciated the police presence in the down town area and would like to see it increased.

Pamela Bristol, the owner of Move Over Martha said she had no concerns/problems that she would like to discuss.

Mr. Joseph Palumbo, the owner of Palumbo's Jeweler's stated that he would like to see the one hour parking limit on the street decreased to 30 minutes. He stated that he is aware that the police do check on this but by the time the tires are chalked and the police later return, the vehicle is gone. He was advised by Sgt. Spratto that he would notify our patrol personnel to be aware of this during their patrol tours.

Serafino's Pharmacy owner, Ronald Serafino, stated he had no concerns/problems that he would like to discuss at this time.

Chief Daly further stated that Sgt. Spratto had sent an e mail to all of the police personnel concerning the parking issues in the down town area.

Chief Daly then spoke on the Connecticut Law Enforcement Challenge and reported that Southington came in second place in the category of Municipal, 66 to 100 sworn officers. He stated that Officer Thomas Gallo did all of the work on this and did a good job.

Chief Daly reported our DARE classes will be up and running commencing on September 15, 2009. The DARE classes are conducted by Officer Tom Gallo. Derynoski, Strong, South End, St. Thomas and Thalberg schools will have classes for 10 weeks from September to November, 2009. Flanders, St. Domenic's, Kelly, Hatton and Plantsville will have classes for 10 weeks from January to March, 2010.

Chief Daly and Commissioners discussed the Freedom of Information session to be held on October 8, 2009 at 7 p.m. which they were to attend. Commissioners all agreed to see if the Town Hall Chamber was available prior to the 7 p.m. Freedom of Information Session. Chief's secretary would check and book the Chamber for 6 p.m. on October 8, 2009 if available.

Letters from recipients of a tag had been distributed to the Commissioners. Commission members had reviewed the letter prior to the meeting including the recommendation of Lt. Edward Pocock as to the action suggested to be taken concerning the tag. The following action was taken by the Commission:

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to accept the recommendations of Lt. Pocock concerning the recently received contested parking tags, seconded by Commissioner Triano, all in favor Motion passed.

A letter will be sent to the individuals who had contested their issued tags.

Last item discussed was the street dedication to Officer Timothy Foley, the only Southington police officer ever killed in the line of duty. Chief Daly told Commissioners the dedication ceremony would be at 1 p.m. on September 11, 2009 and all Commissioners were invited to attend. The Foley family would be present for the dedication as well as State and Local officials.

Public Communication: There were no public communications.

Old Business: Under old business Chief Daly turned the meeting to Lt. Edward Pocock III who would be speaking on the upcoming Award Program. Lt. Pocock briefed Commissioners on some of the program. He indicated he had checked on military protocol for the event. There would be three presenters that evening, Chief Daly, Captain Palmieri and himself.

He indicated all of the officers would be on stage and the program should last approximately two hours including a power point presentation. Additionally, there would also be three civilian awards given out that evening. Lt. Pocock gave a short synopsis of the service time, professionalism and dedication to the Southington Police Department from these three individuals who would be receiving the civilian awards. All commissioners agreed with Lt. Pocock's

synopsis and were very pleased that these three individuals would be honored with the civilian award. The individuals will be notified and their honor and hopefully will be able to attend the Awards Program.

Lt. Pocock spoke very proudly of what was scheduled for the Awards Program and was hopeful that all who attend will enjoy the event. He commented that the Awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 6:30 at the Southington High School auditorium. He hoped all Commissioners would attend. Chief Daly further added that this Program will give an opportunity for the younger police officers to witness what some of the “old folks” (police officers) really did concerning police work.

In order for Chief Daly, Capt. Palmieri and Lt. Pocock to be presenters on September 24th, the Commissioners did bestow upon them their respective ribbon awards. The accomplishments were read and a synopsis of accomplishments will be placed in their respective personnel files. Commissioners acknowledged their accomplishments with applause.

All other business

Commissioner Triano indicated he had received a call from John Dobbins from the Water Department Board. He continued the call centered on the Department’s assistance to the Water Department in the drug disposal event that took place in Southington. Commissioner Triano stated that the program was such a success that surrounding towns want to make Southington a template for their programs.

He added the program was well received and a success. He continued that Mr. Dobbins and the Water Department were now looking into different avenues to explore such as people in senior housing, hospice, and the terminally ill. The point being that many individuals in those scenarios are on very potent drugs which left unattended or not disposed of can bring a lot of money on the streets.

He continued that future programs might entail the use shredders or sealed containers or mailers that could be sent to the Police Department for disposal or burned at the dog pound. Commissioner Triano reiterated that the call was basically to see if the Police Department would be receptive to future programs. Commissioner Triano asked for comments from the Commissioners. All Commissioners were in agreement and Chief Daly indicated that the Department

would support the concept and would work with them.

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to adjourn the Regular meeting and go immediately into executive session, including Chief Daly, and the three potential candidates for a patrol position, excluding the press and the public, for the purpose of discussing personnel and contractual issues, seconded by Commissioner Nevelos. All in favor. Motion passed at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Palmieri
Recording Secretary

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Executive Session

September 10, 2009

Chairman Verderame called the Executive Session to order at 6:55 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Triano, Bedard, Nevelos and Della Vecchia
Chief Daly, also individually one at a time Supernumerary
Officers Thomas Atterato, Christopher Lamarre and
Chad Butler

Personnel and Contractual issues were discussed.

**MOTION made by Commissioner Nevelos
to adjourn the executive session and go back
into regular session. Seconded by Commissioner
Della Vecchia. Motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Session adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Palmieri
Recording Secretary

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting after Executive Session

September 10, 2009

Chairman Verderame called the Regular Meeting after Executive Session to order at 7:15 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Triano, Bedard, Nevelos and Della Vecchia
Chief Daly

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to hire supernumerary Chad Butler as a full time police officer effective September 16, 2009, seconded by Commissioner Della Vecchia, all in favor, motion passed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Della Vecchia to hire supernumerary Thomas Atterato as a full time police officer effective September 16, 2009, seconded by Commissioner Triano, all in favor, motion passed.

No other business to come before the meeting.

MOTION made by Commissioner Triano to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Bedard, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Palmieri
Recording Secretary

