

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners began at the Southington Police Department Community Room and moved to Chief's Conference Room on August 12, 2010.

The meeting is called to order by Chairman Verderame at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Nevelos, Della Vecchia, Pestillo and Bedard were present.

Chief John Daly was present
Captain Greg Simone was present

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Pestillo

Commissioner Verderame called for a motion to approve the June 10, 2010 minutes. (No meeting held in July)

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2010.

Commissioner Pestillo indicated an addition under Commissioner Communications to cite "Commissioner Pestillo" questioned the activity level, etc.

Commissioner Bedard then made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2010 as amended, seconded by Commissioner Della Vecchia. All in favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Verderame then called for a motion to re-approve the Minutes of the August 29, 2009 minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners due to a clerical error.

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to re-approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2009, due to a clerical error and correction thereof, seconded by Commissioner Nevelos. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chairman Verderame called for a motion to approve billings as presented under the monthly Munis Report to the Commissioners. Chief Daly also presented a requisition for signature by three Commissioners.

MOTION made by Commissioner Nevelos to approve the monthly Munis Report as submitted for period July 1, 2010 to August 12, 2010 seconded by Commissioner Della Vecchia. All in favor, motion passed.

Mr. Louis Perillo joins the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Chief Daly reviews a letter from Bryant Realty requesting a temporary easement over land of the Southington Police Department. Mr. Perillo explains the proposed request. Several questions from Chief Daly and the Commissioners concerning the requested easement from Bryant Realty. Mr. Perillo leaves the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Chairman Verderame calls for a motion to add under No. 8 of said agenda the discussion of the easement request from Bryant Realty.

MOTION made by Commissioner Pestillo to add the discussion of the easement of Bryant Realty to No. 8 of said agenda, "All other business deemed proper and appropriate to be brought before the Board at this time", seconded by Commissioner Bedard. All in favor, motion passed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Pestillo to approve the temporary access easement requested by Bryant Realty under the following conditions: The general contractor shall work with the administration and Police Commissioners to insure there will be no inconvenience

to the Department. The project will be bonded and insured as required by Town regulations. The temporary access easement is limited in duration as specified by the Town and is given to only allow equipment access to the site so that work may be conducted at the site and the equipment removed. The property of the Southington Police Department shall be preserved and returned to its original state as currently existing prior to the granting of this temporary access easement, seconded by Commissioner Bedard. All in favor, motion passed.

Report to Commissioners by Chief Daly.

First Item – Activity Reports June and July 2010. Chief Daly referred to June, 2010 report asking Commissioners if they had any questions. He moved on to July, 2010 report indicating that vehicles traveling the wrong way down the one-way street in the center of town are still a main concern to many business owners. On August 6, 2010, Lt. Pocock and Officer Mullins re-evaluated the signage with a conclusion that the area is properly signed and marked for vehicular travel. Increased patrols in the area will attempt to stop this wrong way travel. Short discussion

Commissioner Verderame asked that the curb be painted on Columbus Avenue. Chief Daly indicated no parking from here to corner signage was going to posted. Commissioner Verderame also requested that the center lines of red, white and green not be removed until after Labor Day as a consideration to the Sons of Italy anniversary celebration. Chief Daly would comply with the request.

Second Item – Correspondence from Board of Firearms Examiners. Chief Daly informed Commissioners that the Board would be introducing some new procedures. Chief Daly explained that in the past if the Department refused a pistol permit, the State Firearms Examiners always acted as the prosecutor. The board will no longer be doing that and when a pistol permit is refused the Department will have to go to the hearings. Chief Daly further indicated that he had contacted Attorney Sciota and informed him that the person denied would have an attorney and questioned him if the Department would have to hire an attorney to handle these cases or would he accompany a representative from this Department.

Third Item – BP Claim. Chief Daly informed Commissioners that the

Department was in the process of submitting a claim to BP for the current deployment of Sgt. Brad Blatchley. He stated that we now have a claim number and will be compiling the necessary information to file said claim. He indicated that Sgt. Blatchley is not scheduled to return to the Department until mid September and subsequently the Department has had to replace him with another sergeant on a weekly basis. Chief indicated for the period June 21, 2010 to July 31, 2010 the Department has expended approximately \$9,800 in overtime to replace Sgt. Blatchley and to date the Department has used up approximately 25% of its allotted overtime monies.

Fourth Item – In-Kind Service Report - Chief Daly informed Commissioners this report is provided annually to the Board of Education via the Finance Department and the report indicates how many man hours and monies are expended for services to the Board of Education. He indicated the cost was \$196,903 for services rendered July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Chief Daly indicated that the Board of Education will then use the figures in a report to the State of Connecticut.

Fifth Item – Dispatcher update – EMD. Chief Daly informed Commissioners that the testing has been now completed and on Saturday, August 14, 2010 the oral interviews will be conducted. Chief Daly indicated that the Department has asked and Mr. George Pohorilak has accepted to be part of the panel also consisting of a Sergeant, Lt., Fireman and Dispatcher. Chief Daly indicated that the final five (5) candidates would come before the Board of Police Commissioners for a short interview at a Special Meeting to be held. After the special meeting, two candidates will be chosen to fill the position. It was hopeful that those two candidates would attend the Collect User Training to be held on September 7th to the 9th. The seats have been reserved. Commissioners all agreed to attend a Special Meeting for the purpose of interviewing the final five candidates, date to be determined. Chief Daly indicated that there were approximately 75 applicants who participated in the multitask testing. Chief Daly indicated that the Department was looking to go “live” with the EMD Program on October 1, 2010

Sixth Item – Presentation by Sgt. DePalma. Chief Daly turns the meeting over to Sgt. DePalma. The first topic discussed was the School Resource Officer at the High School. The SRO provides a safe, educational environment while being a positive role model. The SRO investigates criminal activity that occurs at the high school and takes appropriate enforcement action, he guest lectures in classes

concerning law enforcement topics and provides assistance to school officials. Officer Jason Plourde will be the School Resource Officer and Sgt. DePalma indicated that Officer Plourde will be very good in working with students' parents. Sgt. DePalma further stated that he had the pleasure of meeting with the new principal, Dr. Martin Semmel and he believed Dr. Semmel shared the same philosophy as the Department's philosophy in that Dr. Semmel would be pro active to the Department's law enforcement and open door policies. Sgt. DePalma indicated that this was the philosophy of the former principal Ms. McGrath and he praised Ms. McGrath for her full cooperation with the Department while she was the principal at SHS. Sgt. DePalma stated the Department was invited to the convocation at SHS and would have a booth also. All in all he looked forward to an excellent working relationship.

Second topic discussed was the DARE Programs and he indicated DARE would be back in eight elementary and two parochial schools. The classes have increased in size to approximately 600 students, 100 students over last year.

Third topic was the Southington Police Explorer Post 57. Sgt. DePalma informed the Commissioners that four of our Explorers attended the Northeast Region Law Enforcement Cadets Conference from June 28 to July 1, 2010 at Camp Rell in Niantic, Ct. These Explorers attended classes concerning police combat systems, leadership, building searches and hostage negotiations. The group also competed in felony stops, domestics, unknown response and related calls. Sgt. DePalma was proud to state our Post was awarded 4 medals, one first place, three second place and one SWAT ribbon.

Fourth topic, Sgt. DePalma further informed the Commissioners that the Explorers also attended the Police CADET Academy from July 25th to July 31st, at the University of Hartford. This Program hosted approximately 400 Explorers and those attending entered into the Program at different stages depending on their time in service. The stages were basic, advanced, police department, career development formulated as a boot camp and mountain bike. The Explorers attended classes in different aspects of police work, firearms training, defensive tactics and also worked in a simulated police department. Sgt. DePalma proudly stated that one of our Explorers came in third place in crime scene investigation and the same Explorer came in second place in academics.

Commissioner Pestillo queried as to the age of the Explorers. Sgt. DePalma responded from 14 to 21 years of age. He further indicated that last year eight

Explorers left the program. Query how many Explorers at one time. Answer was 20 from Sgt. DePalma

Fifth Topic discussed was the Rollover Simulator and the Seatbelt Convincer. Sgt. DePalma informed the Commissioners that our Department, in addition to the Rollover Simulator, is now housing and scheduling the new Seatbelt Convincer for the entire State. Sgt. DePalma explained that the Convincer was developed to educate the general public of how beneficial the use of seat belts are when a person is in a collision. The Convincer allows the person to experience the amount of force generated even at a low speed.

Last topic discussed was Facebook. Sgt. DePalma explained that back in May, 2010 he had received a letter from the Justice Department inviting our Department to the IACP (International Association of Chiefs of Police) Headquarters in Washington DC to participate in a focus group. Sgt. DePalma also indicated that the trip and related expenses were at “no cost” to the Town. Sgt. DePalma on July 22, 2010 went to Washington DC to participate and to share with other individuals what our Department was doing with the Facebook site. He explained there were 25 police departments who shared ideas. He indicated that the goal of the project was to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to use technology to prevent and solve crimes and to enforce police/community relations. It was determined that social networking sites like Facebook benefit police departments by enabling departments to connect with their communities, to post news and alerts, to investigate and even solve crimes using information they collect via the sites. He commented that Facebook has over 500 million users.

Sgt. DePalma further commented that he was very honored to share Chief Daly’s vision with other departments concerning what our Department was doing and he indicated that our Department was ahead of the curve.

Seventh item. Chief Daly informed Commissioners on the upcoming road projects which are: Mill Street and West Street intersection; West Street work between Mill Street and West Center Street; West Street and West Center Street intersection; West Street and North Summit Street and Summit Street and West Center between summit Street and Water Street.

Chief Daly spoke on the recent concern that the Department had extra money in it’s budget. He elaborated that since the beginning of this fiscal year to

date, 76 days have accumulated, 5 days for officers who have banked their holiday, 39 military days and 32 injury days. To date the Department has expended approximately 25% of the overtime budget. He further indicated that the Department will be needing to transfer into the overtime account line before the end of this fiscal year.

Lastly Chief Daly discussed the current vendor for our grounds maintenance work with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Communications. There were none

Public Communications. There were none

Old Business. There was none

All other business. There was no other additional business.

MOTION made by Commissioner Bedard to adjourn the regular meeting and go immediately into executive session, including Chief Daly and Capt. Simone, if needed, excluding the press and the public, for the purpose of discussing personnel and contractual issues, seconded by Commissioner Della Vecchia. All in favor. Motion passed at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Palmieri
Recording Secretary

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Executive Session

August 12, 2010

Chairman Verderame called the Executive Session to order at 6:50 p.m.

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

**MOTION made by Commissioner Nevelos
to adjourn the executive session and go back
into regular session. Seconded by Commissioner
Bedard. 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

August 12, 2010

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

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

MOTION made by Commissioner Della Vecchia to appoint Stephen Cifone as a full time patrol officer effective August 27, 2010 seconded by Commissioner Bedard, all in favor, motion passed.

MOTION made by Commissioner Pestillo to appoint Justin Armack as a supernumerary officer with the Department seconded by Commissioner Nevelos, effective August 27, 2010, all in favor, motion passed.

No other business to come before the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne D. Palmieri
Recording Secretary