

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**JULY 12, 2012 at 6:00 pm**  
**Southington Police Department**  
**69 Lazy Lane**  
**Southington, CT 06489**

Chairman Stephen Pestillo called the meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Southington Police Department, 69 Lazy Lane, Southington, CT with the following in attendance:

Nicholas DePaola, Dr. Richard Montague\*, James M. Verderame, Sr., Elaine D. Bedard

Ex-Officio:

John F. Daly, Chief of Police  
William Palmieri, Captain  
Edward Pocock, III, Captain

(\* Arrived at 6:12 where noted in the Minutes)

**Stephen Pestillo, Chair, presiding:**

Pledge of Allegiance - The pledge of allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance.

**2. Approval of Minutes** from the previous meeting, May, 2012

The Chair noted there was no June, 2012 meeting. Ms. Bedard made a motion to approve the Minutes as circulated. Mr. DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**3. Communications**

**A. Communications from the public**

Art Cyr commented on what a good job was done by the administration on the new police contract. We did not go to arbitration and we all saved a substantial amount of money in attorney's fees and arbitration costs. I'm glad we finally had good negotiation.

He commented he was speaking to a Board of Finance member recently and now we have approved the new community field for \$875,000 at the high school, is there any way we could get a couple of high resolution cameras up there to protect our investment.

Mr. Cyr stated when the Chairman of the BOF asked me to come to this meeting and ask we protect our investment, if we have to go out as a town and install a new high resolution camera so we can tell whether it's a male or female, do it. We feel we need to do it to protect our investment. Mr. Cyr also stated they would like to see signs stating: Notice or Warning, high resolution camera. That's bigger deterrent than the camera itself. Basically, the BOF is saying whatever we need to do to stop vandalism and protect our investment.

Discussion.

Mr. Cyr asked: Is the police department computer system functioning 100 percent? Somebody told me the ambulance company isn't connected to our computer system because somebody doesn't want to pay for the module to hook it into the town computer system.

Captain Palmieri responded with the EMD, we roll our call to AMR to dispatch the ambulance. They wanted to have a system where we enter something into our CAD system it goes to their CAD system also as an alert they have to dispatch an ambulance. We'd also continue to use the phone call as a back up to the system. We paid to have our CAD vendor build the phone. They can't answer the phone on their end now and they're saying we have to pay for it to come both ways. That's not what we agreed to initially. Their vendor has to create the receiver. We never got into the nuts and bolts of cost would be.

Our position was we created the phone. It can ring. They can't answer it but someone has to pay to have it answered. It doesn't impact the service even if we have the system created the dispatcher would still make sure the electronic message got to AMR.

The question of who is going to pay is still under discussion.

Mr. Cyr then asked if you have an officer out in the field, are there computers in the cars live with headquarters at all times? The Chief said the mobile answer is yes. We had a slight glitch with them and they were repaired between yesterday and this afternoon.

Discussion.

Mr. Cyr then asked if they are sitting on the road after an incident/accident and they type in the report, does that come into headquarters. The Chief said it did.

Mr. Cyr concluded you guys are doing a great job.

## **B. Commissioner Communications**

Mr. DePaola noted for the record he has been involved in a lot of interviews.

(Dr. Montague entered the meeting.)

Mr. DePaola continued he was never as impressed as he was with part of the interview here when we interviewed the candidates for sergeant, lieutenant and captain. Just to get the tenor and the quality, if we could have made a video of the questions asked and answered. Spoke about what goes into the making of a police officer today.

Discussion.

Mr. Verderame asked for an update on the license plate reader. The Chief said there is an electrical problem with the car and it should be fixed by next week.

Discussion.

The Chair asked for thanks to be extended to Officer Valentine. This is a great note.

The Chair thanked everyone for their work on the contract. Great, great job. It seems fair and it didn't go to arbitration thus saving the town money and time.

#### **4. Bills submitted for payment**

The Chief submitted both May and June's monthly bills for signature.

I also have requisitions for:

- DARE supplies, \$5,565.
- Replacement of 14 walky-talky radios for \$18,389.76. It's off the state bid price.
- Battery backup system, \$8,416 is for the server tower.
- Two computers for the cruisers.

Dr. Montague asked the prices be checked to be sure they match the state pricing so there is no issue about price.

Discussion.

Dr. Montague made a motion to approve the bills as submitted. Mr. Verderame seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

#### **5. Report to Commission by Chief Jack Daly**

##### **A. Retirement letter**

Chief Daly read a letter of retirement from William J. Santarsiero, Detective.

**B. Summary of 2011-2012 fiscal year**

Chief Daly gave a summary of the 2011-12 fiscal year. As of today, we have \$67,311.00 which shows we spent 99 percent of our \$6.7 million budget. Our overtime total for this year was \$646,884.00. We start the new fiscal year with \$450,000 but I hope some of the contract changes will help that along with the new hires.

Discussion.

Chief Daly briefly described his role as President of the Connecticut Police Chief's Association. He explained the association is working on a regional exam which will benefit all towns.

He further explained he has been appointed to the PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) Consolidations Study Review and Recommendation Panel wherein we are going to discuss consolidating the 9-1-1 systems.

**C. Maintenance agreements**

Captain Pocock explained the several maintenance agreements that were provided in the packets to the commission. He went through everyone and explained what it was for and how much the cost is per year.

Dr. Montague made a motion to approve the maintenance agrees as presented. Mr. Verderame seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**D. Master Sergeant position**

Captain Palmieri explained the new Master Sergeant position. Version II of the job description was sent for your review. He pointed out there will be a job description for every position here provided as part of the accreditation process. The posting for the position was described by the Chief with the testing planned for the end of August with promotion by the September meeting.

Discussion.

**6. Administrative Report from Captain Palmieri**

Captain Palmieri asked for sign off on the Internal Affairs document. He explained the document had no real changes.

Captain Palmieri then explained the accreditation process the department is going through is going to make it even better than it is now. It is designed to evaluate, measure and update our organization

to commonly used professional practices. The goal is to start the actual accreditation process on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 with completion by 2016. Accreditation will reduce our liability and it also gives the department an automatic self-assessment every three years.

Discussion.

## **7. Operations Report from Captain Pocock, III**

Captain Pocock discussed increasing accountability and insuring that the Chief stays informed on a lot of issues and changing patrol and how we can better respond to incidents. He spoke about the foundational things he is doing. The change in the notification system was discussed. Telestaff was discussed. Changes in new personnel training was explained; i.e. an FTO as a mentor as soon as they are assigned. The SPD internet system with Sharepoint was discussed. Operational brass meetings are every week now and I plan to have them through August and then we are hoping to go to every other week. Vehicle accountability was instituted.

Some building changes were discussed for a Master Sergeant's office. Also, new chairs for the conference room and carpeting the administrative offices.

Pittman Scheduling was extensively discussed and will be brought to the next meeting for the commissioners to review.

## **8. Old Business**

**a. None**

## **9. New Business**

**a. Patrol Officer vacancies (action item)**

- Alexander Milney, age 21
- Russell Vernalli, age 46

Dr. Montague made a motion to hire the two candidates in the patrol position. Mr. Verderame seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Chief Daly brought up one other item. Our ERT, their bullet proof vests as of the end of August this year, they are expired. The vest, because they are for a SWAT Team are approximately \$2500 for each one. We have six members so it comes to \$15,000. I will ask for an added appropriation at the next BOF meeting and then we'll apply for the 50% grant.

**10. All other business deemed proper and appropriate to be brought before the Board at this time.**

Motion to enter into executive session was made by Dr. Montague, excluding the public and press for the purposes of personnel and contractual issues. At the conclusion we will return to regular session. The Chief and the Captains are included as well as the entire Board of Commissioners. Mr. Verderame seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 7:09 o'clock, p.m.)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Southington Board of Police Commissioners entered executive session immediately following their regular meeting with the following in attendance in order to discuss personnel and contractual issues.

The following Councilpersons were present, viz:

Nicholas DePaola, Dr. Richard Montague, James Verderame, Elaine Bedard and Stephen Pestillo, Chair.

Ex-officio members present were as follows:

John F. Daly, Chief  
William Palmieri, Captain  
Edward Pocock, III, Captain

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

Mr. Verderame made a motion to adjourn from executive session. Mr. DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

(Executive session was adjourned at 7:29 o'clock, p.m.)

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mr. DePaola made a motion to adjourn the Board of Police Commissioners meeting which was seconded by Mr. Verderame. Motion passed unanimously.

(Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 o'clock, p.m.)

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John F. Daly, Chief  
Acting Secretary

