

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
November 8, 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 and Elaine D. Bedard

Ex-Officio:

John F. Daly, Chief of Police

William Palmieri, Captain

Edward Pocock, III, Captain

Absent: James M. Verderame, Sr., Commissioner

Stephen Pestillo, Chair, presiding:

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance with Commissioner DePaola leading.

2. Approval of Minutes for the previous meeting, October 2012
(Action Item)

Dr. Montague made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Ms. Bedard seconded. Motion passed on a majority vote with Mr. DePaola abstaining.

3. Communications

A. Communications from the Public

Arthur Cyr, 103 Berlin Avenue, addressed the commission regarding the Apple Harvest Festival, specifically, the road race. He indicated his main intention and concern is public safety.

The apple harvest has gotten so big we've lost control over certain aspects of it. The road race is one of them. At 1400 runners, I believe it is an unsafe situation to have open roads. I

feel we need to shut down Berlin Avenue, Berlin Street, Pleasant Street and Woodruff for an hour.

Explained the situation where a runner hit a car this year as the car came through the intersection at Main and Berlin.

I ask this commission to look at this in the next nine or ten months and work in conjunction with our local traffic authority to do something different than we did here.

Overtime at the festival continues to be a problem. I hear a lot of guys don't like to work the festival, all the hours and weekends. I'd like to know why we can't have yellow and green shirted people that say "Staff" or "Security" inside the apple harvest zone getting rid of the skate boarders, the kids on bikes and the dogs.

Discussion.

I think the commission needs to look at the entire festival and if you get back to me by March or April, I will be thrilled.

Chief Daly said there is a representative that sits on the Apple Harvest Festival Committee. We'll check it out.

B. Commissioner Communications

Chairman Pestillo noted the medication drop box is up to 88 pounds according to Kelly Leppard. I'm proud of that. It's worth it and it is a great program. The 88 pounds is a cumulative total.

Chairman Pestillo announced he has decided it's time for him to step down as Chair of the Police Commission. I have too many irons in the fire. Not an easy decision. It is effective immediately.

Dr. Montague made a motion to add to the Agenda: Election of Officers. It would be Item 3-C. Mr. DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

C. Election of Officers

Chairman:

Mr. DePaola made a motion that Dr. Montague be elected Chairman of the police commission. Ms. Bedard seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Congratulations.

Dr. Richard Montague, assuming the Chair:

Mr. DePaola made a motion to elect Mr. Pestillo the secretary position on the board of police commissioners. Ms. Bedard seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

4. Report to Commission by Chief Jack Daly

Chief Daly stated he had a letter from Officer Tom Gallo asking for permission to hold the annual gift drive again this year. Stuff-A-Cruiser. At Walmart on December 1st from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. He will seek officers to volunteer their time and all donations received will be for needy families here in town and will be distributed by the social services office. He will be assisted by Master Sergeant Kahn.

Secondly, on Thursday, October 25th, I, Captain Pocock, Lieutenant DePalma, Sergeant Egan and Officer Gallo attended the Law Enforcement Summit Law Enforcement Challenge held at CCSU. It's sponsored by the CT DOT and the CT Police Chief's Association. The Southington Police Department was honored with two awards:

(1) Second place in the state for a town our size for traffic safety programs.

(2) Having the top overall child passenger safety program in the state. This is the second year in a row Southington has won this award.

The Connecticut Law Enforcement Challenge breaks down traffic safety into the following areas:

- Policies and guidelines
- Training of officers
- Incentives and recognition
- Public information and education
- Enforcement activity and
- Effectiveness of efforts.

This Challenge is judged nationally and we compete against departments of similar size on a state and national level.

In March, 2012, the application compiling general orders, training in the area of traffic and traffic enforcement efforts including click it or ticket efforts, DUI efforts, directed enforcement efforts, public education campaigns and officer recognitions into a book were forward to the CT DOT which then forwarded them to Virginia for judging.

I'd like to commend Officer Gallo. He did an excellent job earning us those awards.

5. Administrative Report from Captain Palmieri

Captain Palmieri noted the report contained in the commissioners' package. The telestaff (sp) scheduling system is well on its way to becoming fully automated. I thank the Chief for giving us the resources to get everything squared away. I thank Captain Pocock and Lieutenant DePalma for their assistance on the project. We're at the training phase now and it should be done within the next week or so. Then we'll be fully automated with our scheduling system which is going to make us more efficient in that area.

The accreditation process is moving forward.

We had Storm Sandy. We spent approximately \$8500 for officer overtime and another \$840 in dispatch overtime. That will be submitted to FEMA for possible reimbursement.

6. Operations Report from Captain Pocock III

Captain Pocock reported that Hurricane Sandy, from an operational point of view, we were fortunate. We had less than one percent power outages. No injuries or deaths reported from the storm in Southington.

The longest road closure was County Road near DeFashion Street. A very successful event for us as opposed to those on the coast.

As far as the patrol division, the GIS files to complete the 5 & 2 plan --- the biggest problem is probably one of the most talented GIS workers, Marwin Gonsalves, got a job with CCSU as a professor in that area. They are extremely fortunate to have him.

It's taken longer, but I am looking forward to that being completed next week.

I want to compliment Captain Palmieri on the telestaff work he did. Absolute aces job. I want to publicly acknowledge the work he did on that.

An update on support services concerns the community stakeholders' information series we've been pushing forward. For November, the Birchcrest Star house, a DCF facility, will be coming on the 13th or 14th of this month. We're having great success in training the officers on that.

Narrow banding was completed with every vehicle in the fleet noted Captain Pocock in response to a query by Mr. Pestillo. We're way ahead of schedule. Lieutenant Baribault did a phenomenal job on that.

A speed table was described by Captain Pocock.

7. Bills submitted for payment (Action Item)

Ms. Bedard made a motion to approve the submitted bills to be paid. Mr. DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

8. Old Business

A. None

9. New Business

A. Parking Violations Review Captain Pocock III (Action Item)

Captain Pocock reported he concurred with Lieutenant Baribault's findings on this and recommend the ticket not be rescinded.

Mr. DePaola made the motion to not rescind the ticket. Ms. Bedard seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

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

Ms. Bedard made a motion to go into executive session excluding the public and press but including Captain Palmieri, Captain Pocock and Chief Daly for personnel and negotiation matters. Mr. Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Executive Session

- Personnel and Contractual issues

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:25 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, Elaine Bedard and Stephen Pestillo, Chair.

Absent: James Verderame, Sr., Commissioner

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

(Executive session was adjourned at 6:40 o'clock, p.m.)

REGULAR SESSION

Mr. DePaola made a motion to add to the regular agenda, Items 11a and 11b, action on the hiring of one Supernumerary Officer and action on the hiring of one full-time officer. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 11a: Hiring of One Supernumerary Officer (action item)

Ms. Bedard made a motion to appoint Mr. Nicholas Spratt to the position of Supernumerary upon passing a physical or other requirements specified by the Chief of Police. Mr. Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 11b: Hiring of one full-time officer (action item)

A motion to appoint Mr. Peter Moller to the position of full-time Patrol Officer upon his successful completion of further tests and upon the satisfaction of meeting such requirements, he may be placed

into the regular roster at the convenience of the Chief was made by Ms. Bedard and seconded by Mr. Pestillo. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Pestillo made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Bedard. Motion passed unanimously.

(Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 o'clock, p.m.)

John F. Daly, Chief
Acting Secretary