

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
**May 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Southington Police Department**  
**69 Lazy Lane**  
**Southington, CT 06489**

Chairman Richard Montague, PhD called the meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Southington Police Department, 69 Lazy Lane, Southington, CT with the following in attendance:

Commissioner James Verderame, Sr., Commissioner Nicholas Depaola, Commissioner Steve Pestillo, Commissioner Phil Landino, and John F. Daly, Chief of Police.

Administrative staff in attendance:

William Palmieri, Administrative Captain  
Lowell DePalma, Operations Captain

**Richard Montague, PhD, Chair, presiding:**

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone in attendance.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from the previous regular meeting, March 2014.

Commissioner Depaola made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2014 meeting. Commissioner Landino seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

3. **Communications.**
  - a. **Communications from the Public**

Art Cyr of 103 Berlin Ave., Southington, CT attended the meeting to state the following: He has problems in his neighborhood with commercial vehicles parking on the residential street overnight. He realized there is no Town Ordinance with respect to this issue. Captain DePalma confirmed there is no such ordinance at this time. Mr. Cyr found an ordinance used in the Town of Woodbridge that he sent to the Captain, the Chief and the Town Council. He would like it discussed with the Town Ordinance Committee to have them enact the ordinance. He would like input from the Board of Police Commissioners, the Chief of Police and the Captain as to whether or not those ordinances work.

Chief Daly confirmed that they spoke with Town Attorney Mark Sciota with respect to the matter and that they will be referring it to the Town Ordinance Committee for discussion.

Mr. Cyr also stated that he likes the new ACT ("ACT On It") program. He believes the Southington Police Department website and Facebook page are top notch and the Police Department website continues to be outstanding.

Detective Lewis Palmieri of 69 Lazy Lane Southington, Connecticut discussed his displeasure with the way his Internal Affairs Investigation was handled. Please see detailed statement attached.

Officer Salerno, President of the Southington Police Union, 69 Lazy Lane discussed his Request for Information regarding Southington Police Department's Supernumerary Program. Please see detailed statement attached.

**b. Commissioner Communications**

Commissioner Depaola confirms that both of the previous statements made by Detective Palmieri and Officer Salerno have been written out and requested that they be submitted to the Board of Police Commissioners. Detective Palmieri and Officer Salerno agreed to submit their letters. He would also like to see the Administration along with their attorney, as quickly as possible, discuss each point so that both issues can be addressed by the Police Commission.

Commissioner Depaola also inquires as to the ordinance that would cover commercial vs. non-commercial vehicles parking on a residential street overnight. What is the alternative? Would the individual need to find a commercial parking lot somewhere downtown? How to determine where to put the truck and how would a commercial vehicle be defined, especially when dealing with "mom and pop" lawn care businesses (for example) being run out of a residence. Tractor-trailers would still have to be looked at. Captain DePalma confirms that there was something in the Planning and Zoning regulations pertaining to not allowing commercial vehicles to be parked in a driveway. When it comes to the street there are not any rules or regulations aside from winter parking bans. Short discussion continues and several different examples are given. The issue will be brought before the Town Ordinance Committee.

**4. Chief Jack Daly's Report to Commission.**

Chief Daly discussed how the State will be doing a major bridge project on I-84 at Marion Ave. beginning at 5:00 p.m. Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and ending by 5:00 a.m. on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. As part of the detour route, traffic will be closed on Marion Ave. in its entirety under the bridge. All traffic from I-84 both Eastbound and Westbound will be sent off the exit ramps and directly back onto the entrance ramps. This will mean that Marion Ave. will remain closed to all traffic and detour plans are in the works. The Administration has been meeting with the State DOT and the State Police and the surrounding towns. In addition, they will need to close Rails to Trails in that location.

There will be a presentation to the Board of Police Commissioners at their June 12, 2014 meeting.

Chief Daly relayed a letter from Sergeant Wilson regarding his retirement as of May 6, 2014. Sergeant Wilson thanks the Chief and the Police Commission for all the opportunities given to him over the years. He has been with the Southington Police Department for 25 1/2 years and will be missed by all.

Chief Daly discussed letters of appreciation received from the public.

Chief Daly discussed the ACT On It program which is a special tip line for reporting vandalism. Captain Palmieri, with the assistance of Officer Lair, did a great job setting up this program. There is a special telephone number (860-276-1234) for citizens to give the Police Department tips. They could be anonymous or there is an award system if the tip leads to the arrest and conviction of an individual. There is an email address that can be used also.

Chief Daly stated that on May 30, 2014 is the Southington Police Union Timothy Foley Memorial Golf Tournament which will be held at Hawks Landing Country Club. All are welcome to participate.

Commissioner Depaola commented on the retirement letter from Sgt. Wilson. He has known Sgt. Wilson since his second or third year on the force. He considers Sgt. Wilson a "cop's cop". He states that Sgt. Wilson is a fine gentleman and a kind person who loves to get the job done. Although it's a huge loss for the Department, he is positive that someone else will step up to the plate to take his place. Sgt. Wilson will be missed by all.

Chief Daly talks about the new uniform policy that will be discussed with the Police Union. New shirts and utility vests ("vest carrier") are viewed by the Police Commissioners. Short discussion on how the vest carrier helps distribute the weight more evenly to avoid possible injuries.

## **5. Bills Submitted for payment**

Commissioner Depaola made a motion to approve the bills from March 2014 and April 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Verderame seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

## **6. Administrative Report by Captain Palmieri**

### **a) Everbridge Emergency Notification System**

Commissioner Landino made a motion to approve the recommendation on the Everbridge Emergency Notification System. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**b) Written Directive System**

Commissioner Depaola made a motion to approve the recommendation on the Written Directive System. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**c) Radio Communications Vendor**

Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to approve the recommendation to use Goosetown Communications as the Radio Communications Vendor. Commissioner Depaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Captain Palmieri also discussed the long term technology replacement plan. This is a five step plan which will deal with 1) desktop computers and desktop servers 2) big servers that handle the big applications 3) mobile data terminals 4) laptop computers and 5) supported items (faxes, scanners, copiers, modems, etc.). This will allow the Department to work with the Town's new IT Department when they merge their budgets. At the September Police Commissioners meeting Captain Palmieri will have the complete plan for the next four years for moving forward with the IT merge.

**7. Parking Tag Review**

**a) Parking Tag # 11157**

Commissioner Landino made a motion to approve the Report as submitted by Captain Palmieri. Commissioner Depaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**8. Operations Report by Captain DePalma.**

Captain DePalma discusses the new speed trailer that Operations recently received. The new speed trailer is different than the one they had before that just flashed the speed. What sets this one apart is the new technology. This speed trailer includes a Smart Apps traffic sweep which has a mapping feature including an interactive map that provides where the piece of equipment is located and can schedule the equipment for certain locations and set priorities. There is a reporting feature that can actually collect data and record speeds and time of day, etc. It will also identify trends. This information is not just located on the machine, but sent directly to the Police Department. There is an equipment management feature also which can allow them to check the status of the machine itself and change the settings from the Police Department. There is also a GPS monitor. There is image management which means it can take photographs of the vehicles and/or neighborhood. There are also alerts that will send a message to the Police Department if the equipment is being tampered with or needs a new battery, etc. The speed trailer is just about ready to go. There are two vehicles that can tow it from location to location. The last step will be training the officers to use the speed trailer.

Motion to enter into executive session was made by Commissioner Landino excluding the public and press for the purposes of personnel and contractual issues. Included in executive session were Chief Jack Daly, Captain Palmieri, and Captain DePalma. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passes unanimously on a voice vote.

Whereupon, The Commission went into executive session at 6:48 p.m.

#### **9. 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:

Chairman Richard Montague, PhD, Commissioner James Verderame, Sr., Commissioner Nicholas Depaola, Commissioner Steve Pestillo, Commissioner Phil Landino, Chief Jack Daly, Captain William Palmieri and Captain Lowell DePalma.

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

Commissioner Landino made a motion to return to public session. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Executive session was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

#### **10. Regular session**

- a) Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to take action on the promotion of Officer Brian Leppard as Sergeant effective May 14, 2014. Commissioner Landino seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to adjourn the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Depaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jodi Lapreay  
Recording Secretary