

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
December 11, 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, and John F. Daly, Chief of Police.

Administrative staff in attendance:

William Palmieri, Administrative Captain
Lowell DePalma, Operations Captain
Lieutenant Michael Baribault
Lieutenant John Suski

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, November 2014.

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2014 meeting. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Commissioner Pestillo abstained. Motion passed on a voice vote.

3. **Communications.**

a. **Communications from the Public**

Art Cyr of 103 Berlin Ave., Southington, CT spoke about the following:

He commended the Police Department for holding holiday fundraisers such as the Shop With a Cop at Target, and Stuff a Cruiser.

Mr. Cyr also noted that four of the parking lot lights at the Police Department are out. Chief Daly and Lieutenant Baribault confirmed that the Department is working on the problem. Lieutenant Baribault stated that there are a couple different companies involved with the lighting issue. The lights are on a 10 year warranty. They should not have gone out when they did. There will be a company coming in next week to take the lights out, send them to California where they will be replaced, and then returned to us. The Department will pay for labor but the lights are no cost based on the warranty. Chief Daly stated that they are looking into the cost of having one or two spare bulbs available in case another does go out.

Mr. Cyr inquires as to whether or not they can be changed to LED lights. Lt. Baribault confirms that, in 2011, the Police Department, Town of Southington and CL&P decided to redo and install those particular 10 year warranty lights because they have a cost savings to the Town. All the lights have been replaced and maintained at a cost reduction to the Town.

b. **Commissioner Communications** None.

4. Chief Jack Daly's Report to Commission.

Chief Daly states that approximately nine officers participated in Shop With A Cop on Tuesday, December 9th. This is a great cause. Saturday, December 13th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. is the 6th annual Southington Police Department gift drive at Walmart. January 17th is the 10th annual Polar Plunge. Officer Burke volunteered to help the Chief with the Polar Plunge. Attorney Sciota will also be jumping this year. The officers "get it"; they are involved in the community and are a great bunch of guys.

Chief Daly showed the Commissioners a photograph of the progress on the Dog Pound roof renovation. It's coming along.

Chief Daly relayed that he attended a CPCA winter meeting and expo earlier today. They need to keep close watch on the legislative session this coming year. There are quite a few issues that will directly affect police departments: body cameras, drones, license plate readers, training, unfunded mandates, etc. They will keep in close touch with the state legislators.

5. Bills Submitted for payment

Commissioner DePaola made a motion to approve the bills from November 2014 as submitted. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

6. Administrative Report by Captain Palmieri

a) General Order Review.

1. 400-09 Outside Employment

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Outside Employment General Order as submitted. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

2. 500-01 Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy General Order. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

3. 600-09 Traffic Hazards

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Traffic Hazards General Order. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

4. 700-03 Fleet Management

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Fleet Management General Order. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

b) Budget Transaction (Board of Finance) Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

1. Transfer Requests.

2. Added Appropriation (K-9 Supply Account).

c) Hiring.

Captain Palmieri states that they finished their entry level hiring process. They were able to hire five new officers. Two were already Supernumeraries. One was a certified officer from Derby. Two were not certified and will begin the academy on January 2nd. Captain Palmieri thanked the Commissioner for having the confidence in the Department to come up with an employment process that really worked. Captain Palmieri also complimented Lieutenant Baribault who managed the process and Lieutenant Suski who kept the Detectives on task doing numerous background checks. This went very well. Captain Palmieri relayed correspondence from Doctor Sandra Jones who does the psychological evaluations for new hires; she said: ..."for 30 years, this is one of the most organized department processes so, thank you, it makes my job easier." He thanked Chief Daly for having the confidence in them to work on this project. This is a win for the whole organization. Chairman Montague states that they did a great job and that the Lieutenants did a lot of work and it shows.

7. Operations Report by Captain DePalma.

a) Holiday Season Operational Efforts.

Captain DePalma relays that ordinance information has been sent out to the Public with respect to overnight parking, emergency parking ban, sidewalk issues, and not plowing or throwing snow into the streets.

The Patrol Division did a seatbelt safety checks during the Thanksgiving period from 11/25 through 11/30 (missing one day due to bad weather). They cited 131 people for seatbelt

violations, cell phone violations, or other violations. They also added a walking beat downtown the day before Thanksgiving. It was a quiet night.

Captain DePalma states that there were eight DWI arrests. They still need to get more information out there about drinking and driving. He commends the officers and supervisors for the work they have done on that.

They are still continuing to work on distracted driving.

They took a proactive approach to the holidays by getting info out to the public with respect to issues like shopping, i.e. not leaving your packages in the back seat of your car but rather placing them in the trunk to deter theft, ATM use, etc.

b) Special Investigations Unit Case Update.

Captain DePalma states that the Unit is doing a great job thanks to Lieutenant Suski and his team. They performed another prostitution undercover operation on November 14th; a reverse sting on the "Johns". They did a great job. Six arrests were made.

On November 20th the Unit worked on a synthetic marijuana compliance check at convenience stores, gas stations, etc. 24 different stores were checked and they came up empty. Very good results. They are seeing full compliance by store owners.

On November 28th the team did another undercover operation with respect to selling alcohol to minors. They did have six out of 20 sell. They have more work to do in that respect.

Captain Palmieri gave a brief update on the body cameras. They currently have 34 cameras. They are attempting to go full deployment with them. They are 28 cameras short. However, all patrol officers in the field have them. It is a hot topic in the news lately, but they are ahead of the curve in the area of body cameras.

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

Whereupon, The Commission went into executive session at 6:28 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, John F. Daly, Chief of Police, Captain William Palmieri, Captain Lowell DePalma Theresa Buchanan and Attorney Mark Sciota.

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

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

Executive session was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

10. Regular session

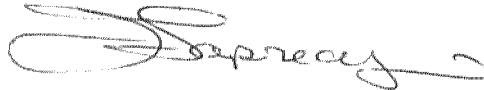
Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to add Grievance 14-04 to the agenda. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote

Commissioner Pestillo made a motion to deny Grievance 14-04 of Officer. Commissioner DePaola seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodi Lapreay", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jodi Lapreay
Recording Secretary