

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 8, 2015 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

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, December 2014.

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

3. **Communications.**

a. **Communications from the Public**

Art Cyr of 103 Berlin Ave., Southington, CT relayed that he is not happy about the written warning given to a particular individual with respect to a school bus passing violation witnessed on Berlin Ave. He feels the individual should have been given a \$450.00 ticket. Chief Daly explained that the officers have discretion as to whether or not they give a written warning or a ticket. There was no video evidence since the video camera on the bus had been disabled by the camera company. The officer felt satisfied that the issue was resolved after he spoke to the individual and issued the written warning. Captain DePalma confirms that there have been no other occurrences after that incident. Mr. Cyr also states that he appreciates Chief Daly responding to him (via email) with respect to this matter on the Chief's day off and commends him on his open lines of communication in general.

- b. **Commissioner Communications** Commissioner Pestillo commends Chief Daly on his communication. Commissioner DePaola comments that it is a great Police Department, which means a lot when you consider what is happening

nationwide. It's a shame when those kinds of things happen. One of the things they stress in the Southington Police Department is the Officers are there to help the public.

4. Chief Jack Daly's Report to Commission.

Chief Daly states that the annual Polar Plunge will take place on Saturday, January 17th, at 1:00 p.m., at Camp Sloper. Anyone who would like to join the Chief's team, or donate to his jump, are welcome to.

The First Annual Police and Fireman's Ball will be held February 28th, at 6:30 p.m. to midnight, at the Aqua Turf. The cost is \$150.00 per couple. There will be an open bar and music by DJ Butch Grey. The dress for the event is business casual and includes cheese and crackers, dinner and open bar.

Chief Daly relays an Official Statement from Governor Malloy proclaiming January 9, 2015 as National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

5. Bills Submitted for payment

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

6. Administrative Report by Captain Palmieri

a) General Order Review.

1. 200-08 Conducted Electrical Weapons

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Conducted Electrical Weapons General Order as submitted. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

2. 600-07 Uniform Traffic Enforcement

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Uniform Traffic Enforcement General Order. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

3. 600-15 Central Region Emergency Response Team

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Central Region Emergency Response Team General Order. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

4. 700-08 Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to approve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act General Order. Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

b) Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Update.

These updates include the radio system, outbuilding and open air carport.

Captain Palmieri relays that this is the plan they started three years ago. Some adjustments were made because of the Dog Pound roof which has been installed. They have also worked in the new CAD system.

There was a brief discussion about the open air carport.

Chairman Montague stated that he thinks they need to add some other things such as improvements to the classroom if it is going to be used for training. It would need to be remodeled to fit the training module where people can turn their chairs and have group discussions. Along with a permanent podium system and chairs. The room is currently a 1950's style classroom. He thinks this should be added as one of the projects. Chairman Montague suggests further review of all departmental areas for possible inclusion in CIP plan.

7. Operations Report by Captain DePalma.

a) Bomb Threat Southington High School.

Captain DePalma relays that the call came in on the 22nd. The threat was made on a social app called Yik Yak. The individual stated that they would be setting bombs off over a two day period at the high school. The good news was that their detectives were able to locate the individual even though the site is supposed to be anonymous. They arrested an 18 year old Southington male in regard to the incident for threatening in the first degree and breach of peace in the second degree. This situation was taken care of within a 24 hour period. Great job by the Detective Division.

b) Burglary and Weapons Theft Incident.

Captain DePalma states that Christmas Eve there was a burglary incident which involved 14 firearms. They made an arrest for larceny and possession of firearms. They are still following up on this case.

c) West Street Sunoco Robbery Arrest.

Captain DePalma relays that this occurred back in November on West Street. They located the individual and arrested the same for robbery in the first degree and larceny in the fifty degree.

d) **DUI and Drug Activity Enforcement.**

Captain DePalma relays that in December they made 8 drug arrests. At the same time last year one arrest was made. 12 DWI arrests were made in December. At the same time last year there were 5 DWI arrests made. For the year (fiscal year which runs July to June) they have made 65 DWI arrests so far. Last year there were 61 arrests made the entire year.

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 and Captain DePalma, Commissioner Verderame seconded. Motion passes unanimously on a voice vote.

Whereupon, The Commission went into executive session at 6:29 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 and Captain Lowell DePalma.

No motions were made or votes taken during executive session.

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

Executive session was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

10. Regular session

Commissioner DePaola made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Emergency Management budget as presented (\$24,000.00). Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner DePaola made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Safety Program budget as presented (\$66,720.00). Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner DePaola made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Animal Control budget as presented (\$200,858.00). Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner DePaola made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Central Dispatch budget as presented (\$724,618.00). Commissioner Pestillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Commissioner Verderame made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Police Department budget as presented for the amount of \$7,611,803.00. Commissioner DePaola seconded. During discussion Chairman Montague states \$575,000.00 is being requested in overtime for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, however, the department is currently projected to spend \$644,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

We are also attempting to civilianize two position within the Police Department; Public Safety IT and Traffic. This will allow the two sworn police officers currently assigned to these positions to be move back into the Patrol Division.

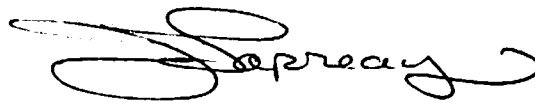
The additional Master Sergeant request is being submitted to keep up with quality control within the department, manage the Accreditation process and to address the current and future State of Connecticut mandated reporting.

The Police Commission also felt that, since staff received a 3% increase, top administration should also receive a 3% increase. The overall budget increase for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 would be a 5.47%. 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 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jodi Lapreay', written in a cursive style.

Jodi Lapreay
Recording Secretary