

**POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Monday, December 13, 2010**  
**6:00 P.M. – Room 201**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Commissioners: Rob Parlee, Edward Fusco, and Stanley Nolan

**OTHERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Gregg Schuster; Board of Selectman Liaison Stan Soby; Rosemary Coyle members of the Board of Selectmen; John Ringo, Board of Finance Liaison; Sgt. Thompson; James Stavola, Glenn Morron, Karen Romero, Nancy Bray, Dorothy Mrowka and Ryan Blessing;

1. **Call to Order** – Commissioner Parlee called the December 13, 2010 meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **Discussion and Possible Action on Meeting Facilitator** –

Commissioner Parlee stated that he felt that the Commission's decision at the last meeting to have S. Soby, Board of Selectmen liaison to the Commission, act as Facilitator at the meetings was a good decision. Commissioner Fusco agreed with Commissioner Parlee.

Commissioner Nolan said that he agreed the Commission should have a Facilitator, but suggested that perhaps G. Schuster, First Selectman should fill this position.

First Selectman Schuster explained that a facilitator can be a staff member, a consultant or a member of the public. He went on to explain that the Facilitator is not an Acting Chairman. The Facilitator is not a member of the Commission and does not have the right to vote. He said that if the Commission wanted him to act as Facilitator he would be willing to fill the position.

Discussion followed. Commissioner Fusco said that he feels that voting for a Chairperson should wait until the vacancies on the Commission are filled.

Commissioner Nolan MOTIONED to continue as last time with Stan Soby as facilitator, if Stan willing to continue in the role as Facilitator. SECONDED by Commissioner Fusco. All members present voted in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

S. Soby assumed the role of Facilitator of the meeting.

3. **Citizen's Comments** –

Rosemary Coyle, member of the Board of Selectman, said she respectfully disagreed with the Commission's decision to continue with S. Soby as Facilitator. She said she feels this is in conflict with CGS 18-35 and Town Ordinances. She also questioned who called the Special Meeting and who is setting the agenda for the meetings. She said that the Commission could not act on the agenda item for Possible Action on the By-laws because there is a 30 day notice requirement. She closed by saying that she feels that the Police Commission should work independently if they are to do a good job. She also asked for the First Selectman for a written legal opinion on this matter.

Glenn Morron, former Chairperson of the Commission, said that he feels an Acting Chairman should be elected. He said he feels that people appointed to this Commission should have police background and offered his services to the Commission members.

4. **Officers Comments** – None

5. **Review, Discussion and Possible Action on By-laws** –

Commission Parlee said that it seems no one has a copy of the By-laws that were revised and adopted a few months ago. G. Morron, past Chairman of the Commission, said he has a copy with handwritten revisions. Discussion followed about when the By-laws were adopted and if the revisions discussed were made and a final version filed with the Town Clerk.

RECEIVED  
COLLESTER, CT  
2010 DEC 14 PM 3:53  
NANCY A. BRAY  
TOWN CLERK

First Selectman Gregg Schuster said that there does not seem to be an official copy of the By-laws on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Nancy Bray, Town Clerk, said that she will check the minutes and speak with her staff to see if the By-laws were filed.

S. Soby, Facilitator, said that this is a procedural matter and a copy of the By-laws will be located and sent to the Commissioners for their review. This item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission.

#### **6. Discussion and Possible Action on FY12 Budget Priorities**

G. Schuster explained the budget process and time line to the new members of the Commission. He asked that the Commission members set their budget priorities for the FY 12 budget. He said that a tentative agreement for the School Resource Officer's salary to be funded by the Board of Education has been reached. The Town will be responsible for the overhead and benefit costs for the SRO. He said that the SRO's salary line item could possibly be used to fund another officer or to update or replace existing equipment.

Sgt. Thompson said that he would like to be involved in the process. A discussion followed regarding updating of the equipment, leasing of vehicles and possible dates for Special meetings to discuss their budget priorities.

Commissioner Novak MOTIONED to have the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 20, 2010 and a Special Meeting on Monday, December 27, 2010 and Monday, January 10, 2011 to consider budget items. SECONDED by Commissioner Fusco. MOTION CARRIED.

#### **7. Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations**

Commissioner Parlee MOTIONED to go into executive session to discuss negotiations and to invite S. Soby, Facilitator; G. Schuster, First Selectman; and Sergeant Thompson. SECONDED by Commissioner Fusco. All members present voted in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

The Board of Police Commissioners and invited guests went into executive session at 6:40 p.m.

The Board of Police Commissioners and invited guests came out of executive session at 8:44 p.m.

**Adjourn** – Commissioner Parlee MOTIONED to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. SECONDED by Commissioner Fusco. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Note: This meeting was recorded by a digital audio recording system and is available through the Colchester First Selectman's office in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Therian, Acting Clerk