



**Police Commission Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 24, 2014  
6:30P.M. – Town Hall  
Meeting Room 1**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Commissioner’s Rob Parlee, Ed Fusco, and Steve Caron  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Frank Jackter and Jenny Langdon  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sgt. J. Mercer, First Selectman G. Schuster, Officer’s C. Scheel, J. Goss, B. Kowalsky and E. Watrous

1. **Call to Order**  
Commissioner Parlee called the Monday, February 24, 2014 meeting to order at 6:33p.m.
2. **Additions to Agenda**  
None
3. **Citizen’s Comments**  
None
4. **Officer’s Comments**  
None
5. **Review Correspondence**  
None
6. **Approve minutes:**

RECEIVED  
 COLCHESTER, CT  
 2014 FEB 25 PM 12:35  
 Nancy A. Gray  
 Town Clerk

**January 27, 2014 Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Fusco **MOTIONED** to approve the January 27, 2014 Police Commission meeting minutes as written. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Caron. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**February 10, 2014 Special Meeting**

Commissioner Fusco **MOTIONED** to approve the February 10, 2014 Police Commission Special meeting minutes as written. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Caron. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**7. Budget Review**

Discussion was held about the memo from Sgt. Mercer regarding Patrol Rifle purchase. He would like to purchase rifles and equipment that will ensure that all officers are equipped to handle a vast array of emergencies. The cost would be \$16,000. He would like to purchase the items with the funds obtained from the sale of the Colchester “DARE” Corvette.

First Selectman Schuster explained the procedure to transfer funds for the rifles or CARD program from the Capital budget to the appropriate Department budget line item. Sgt. Mercer will contact M. Cosgrove, CFO about transferring these funds.

The Commission discussed the 4 to 5 year hiring plan and coverage of the midnight shift on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights during the summer months. First Selectman Schuster asked the Commission to do a presentation on the hiring plan at the Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for March 6, 2014. He suggested that Commission members attend the Board of Finance meeting to explain the plan and rationale.

Discussion took place about the volunteer staffing of the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift during the summer months. Commission Parlee asked First Selectman Schuster to speak with the Town attorney about the voluntary staffing of the midnight shift during the summer months and its effect on the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He also asked the officers present to speak with the other officers about the staffing of the midnight shift on weekends during the summer months.

**8. Appropriation and Transfer**

None

**9. Resident Trooper Report (Sgt. Mercer)**

Sgt. Mercer read the January monthly report (see attachment #1).

**10. Local Traffic Authority**

No report

**11. Old Business**

**a. Discussion of DARE Vehicle**

This item was discussed under Item 7 Budget Review.

**12. New Business**

**a. Discuss and Possible Action on Facebook Page Presentation**

Officer Scheel and Officer Goss presented the Colchester Police Facebook Guidelines to the Commission. The Facebook page would consist of posts such as arrest press releases, arrested persons photos, suspect photos, road closures department activities or Emergency weather/incident information. This will be used as a tool to portray the Colchester Police Department in a favorable light and to educate the public about their work. Discussion followed regarding the content of the page and the oversight of the posts.

Commissioner Parlee asked that Officers Scheel and Goss review Section 16.6 of the Police Policy and to write a Section 16.7 regarding a formal policy and procedure regarding the Facebook page.

**13. Citizen's Comments**

None

**14. Chairman/Commission Member Comment**

Commissioner Fusco thanked Officer Scheel, Officer Goss, Officer Watrous, Officer Kowalsky and Sgt. Mercer for their help in setting up the Hiring Plan and their work on the presentation about the Face Book page.

Commissioner Parlee reminded the Commissioners to plan on attending the Board of Finance meeting Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and the Board of Selectmen meeting on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**15. Adjourn**

Commissioner Caron **MOTIONED** to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Fusco. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Attachment**

Resident Trooper Report (Attachment #1)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gail Therian, Clerk



# State of Connecticut



Resident Trooper Supervisor  
Sgt. Joe Mercer #176

## Connecticut State Police Colchester Resident Troopers' Office

Colchester Police

TO: Colchester Police Commission  
RE: Monthly Report for January 2014 (February, 2014 meeting)

- I. **Monthly activity: statistics – previously submitted**
  - a. S.R.O. activity – Ofc. Edwards has been active in schools as SRO, 2 drug arrests.
  - b. All CPD personnel on full duty, no long term absences to report.
  - c. Budget for FY 2014-2015 in progress.
- II. **Equipment:**
  - a. Vehicles-
    - All vehicles in service.
    - New police vehicle should be ready shortly.
  - b. In car video/MDT-  
Wireless upload has been repaired, data stored on CSP server. 028 Officers can upload at PD or at Troop K. Wifi added to PD so Officers can use MDTs in building to write reports.
  - d. Radio Replacement-  
No change, radios to be replaced on two year plan (1/2 14-15, ½ 15/16)
- III. **Officer Training:**
  - a. All officers are current in their POST certifications and training.
  - b. No elective training in January.
- IV. **Initiatives:**
  - a. RX Drug drop box. – 425 lbs. of prescription drugs have been dropped off as of 2/14/14.
  - b. Officers are continuing visibility/enforcement patrols at Youth Center at open hours.
  - c. TRIAD program has been re-started with Senior Center. Regular monthly meeting are underway.
- V. **Notable Investigations:**
  - a. Identity Theft at Ichiban is suspended
  - b. Ofc Labonte made arrest in arson of shed on Cabin Rd.
  - c. Ofc. Edwards has made 2 drug-related arrests in his capacity as SRO.

Sgt. Joseph Mercer #176  
Colchester Resident State Police Sergeant

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