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COMMUNICATIONS
SECTION

**Colchester Police Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 23, 2018
6:30 PM – Town Hall
Room 2**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM with Commissioners Marvin, Cameron, Vaillancourt and Dubb in attendance.

2. **Nominations for the position of Vice Chair were opened.** Commissioner Vaillancourt was nominated by Commissioner Marvin. Nominations were closed. Motion was made to elect Commissioner Vaillancourt to the position of Vice Chair by Commissioner Marvin and seconded by Commissioner Cameron. Motion was passed unanimously.
3. **Additions to Agenda – None**
4. **Citizen Comments –** Colchester resident Evan Evans of 23 Joseph Lane introduced himself to the commissioners and expressed his interest in joining the Colchester Police Commission. Mr. Evans stated that he had a 29 year military career, with 13 of those years served as a member of the Military Police. Mr. Evans was thanked for his interest and encouraged to submit an application. First Selectman Shilosky suggested that Mr. Evans check on party affiliation, as the open spot may require a particular party affiliation. Mr. Evans stated he would do so.
5. **Officer Comments:** No officers present for comment.
6. **Review of Correspondence:** The letter sent to Ms. Mineau in response to her concerns regarding speeding on Jaffe Terrace was shared with commission members by Commissioner Dubb, as received from the First Selectman's office.
7. **Approve Minutes March 26, 2018:** A motion was made by Commissioner Vaillancourt to accept the March 26 minutes as read, with a second by Commissioner Marvin. Motion passed unanimously.
8. **Budget Review:** There was a discussion about the FY 2019 Police Budget with First Selectman Shilosky who reported that several changes had been made to the police department budget, as a result of a request from the BOF request to reduce the town budget. He stated that the freeze on overtime remains in place. The cruiser has been received for FY2018 and has been assigned to Officer Scheel. There were questions from all Commissioners regarding accessibility to the police department budget, in order to assist with advocating for support of the budget when asked direct questions by the public. The First Selectman advised that the budget is available on line on the town website, but added that if the commissioners wish to have a copy, that they can request a copy of the budget from Tricia Dean in the First Selectman's office. Commissioner Vaillancourt expressed concern regarding the ongoing overtime issues and wanted to know what could be done proactively to manage the overtime, i.e., use of part-time constables. Discussion ensued and Mr. Shilosky stated that an independent study was being conducted to review the issue.
9. **Appropriation and Transfer:** None
10. **Resident Trooper Report:** The report was reviewed. Clarification was sought as to whether investigations conducted by the Resident Trooper are included in the report of total investigations. First Selectman stated that the report only includes the investigations/calls of the Colchester officers.

11. Local Traffic Authority: No communications received from Sal Tassone or Jim Paggioli.

12. Old Business: None to discuss

13. New Business

- a) There was discussion about whether digital recording of meeting could be done since we do not currently have the availability of the admin assistant for the police department and we would like to ensure that all commissioners have the ability to fully participate in meetings, rather than to be distracted by having to take minutes for the meeting. Commissioner Dubb stated that she had inquired with the FOIA Commission and was told that if the meeting was recorded by a town-owned device, that the recording must be saved and archived with the town. However, if the meeting is recorded on a personal digital device then only the written minutes of the meeting need to be submitted. First Selectman Shilosky stated that we could request a digital recorder from Tricia Dean for use at our meetings.

- 14. Chairman/Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Vaillancourt asked about each of the Commissioners obtaining an official town email for purposes of Commission communications. Mr. Shilosky stated that commissioners could contact Tricia Dean to obtain official emails. She also expressed concern about statements made by both Sgt. Martinez and Officer Edwards at the recent budget meeting, i.e., given the multiple roles currently managed by Officer Edwards, should he leave the department – is there a plan in place for someone to step into those same roles? She asked about who maintains inventory lists and suggested that given the current overtime issues that the commission would be available to assist in the inventory process t no cost to the taxpayers. Finally, she asked Mr. Shilosky what he sees as the future of the police commission. Mr. Shilosky stated that at this time, he does not see a role for the commission given the Resident Trooper contract that is currently in place with the town. Commissioner Dubb asked what the next steps for the commission would be. Mr Shilosky suggested that perhaps a public relations role. Commissioner Dubb stated that given the current state of communications between the commission and the police department that that would be challenging. Commissioner Dubb expressed her frustration at wanting to serve her community and her inability to do so given the current climate. Commissioner Marvin expressed her belief that the commission serves as a checks and balance for the public. She stated that public perception is that we are keeping their interests in mind in our role as commissioners, but that we are unable to function in that capacity currently. Commissioner Marvin requested that Mr. Shilosky ask for another meeting with Sgt. Martinez and the Commissioners given Mr. Shilosky's role as the Chief of police. He stated he would make the request. Commissioner Cameron shared many of the concerns as the other commissioners and added that the commissioners are NOT experts in law enforcement and that most police commissions are made up of lay citizens to be impartial in discussions regarding police departments for the purposes of providing the checks and balances mentioned by Commissioner Marvin.

15. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Marvin and seconded by Commissioner Vaillancourt. Motion was passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

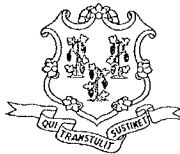
Susan H Dubb

Chair, Police Commission



Resident Trooper Supervisor
Sgt. Martin Martinez # 124

State of Connecticut



Colchester Police

Connecticut State Police Colchester Resident Troopers' Office

TO: Colchester Police Commission
RE: Monthly Report for March 2018 (April 23, 2018 meeting)

- I. **Monthly activity: statistics – previously submitted**
 - a. As of this date, I have one Officer on light duty status.
 - b. Stats for March, (Attached)
- II. **Equipment:**
 - a. We have received our new Ford 2018 SUV and it has been assigned to Officer Craig Scheel.

Officer Training:

- a. All our Officers have been POSTC recertified.
- III. **Initiatives:**
- a. RX Drug drop box. – It should be noted that during the month of March we did not have to deliver the Pharmaceutical Drugs due to the fact that there were not enough prescription drugs dropped off to replace the box.
 - b. Officers are conducting visibility/enforcement patrols at numerous locations within the town. The Speed Trailer has been deployed at numerous locations throughout the town and it is currently deployed on Route 16 in Colchester.
 - c. Officer Goss utilized “Josie” on three searches within the town of Colchester.
 - d. Notable Investigations: None to report.

Sgt. Martin Martinez #124
Colchester Resident State Police Sergeant

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