

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: December 14, 2011

East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE by Senior Commissioner Cliff Nelson:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Senior Commissioner Cliff Nelson. All Commissioners were present as well as Chief of Police Edward DeMarco and Deputy Chief Roger Hart. Also in attendance were First Selectwoman Denise Menard, Selectwoman Dale Nelson, Selectman Richard Pippin and Board of Finance member Kathleen Pippin.

Commissioner Nelson requested a moment of silence for the Virginia Tech police officer killed in the line of duty this past week and for all those officers who lost their lives in 2011.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Nelson introduced Raymond Mancuso and Ed Filipone. Commissioner Nelson commented that there are no “political parties” on this board; that everyone works together as a team with the best interest of the town in mind.

3. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

1. **Chairman: MOTION** made by Commissioner Stremper to elect Cliff Nelson as Chairman of the Police Commission. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sauerhoefer. No discussion. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Stremper/Sauerhoefer/Filipone/Mancuso **ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**
2. **Vice Chairman: MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to elect Joe Sauerhoefer as Vice Chairman of the Police Commission. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper. No discussion. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Stremper/Nelson/Filipone/Mancuso **ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**
3. **Secretary: MOTION** made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to elect Tom Stremper as Secretary of the Police Commission. **SECONDED** Commissioner Filipone. No discussion. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Sauerhoefer/Nelson/Filipone/Mancuso **ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

4. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

None

5. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the November 9, 2011 regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members. Commissioner Nelson requested the addition of “No action taken” following the end of Executive Session (pg. 3), as it was inadvertently omitted from the submitted minutes. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to accept the regular meeting minutes of 11/9/11, with the above amendment. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper. No further discussion.

ABSTAIN FROM VOTING: Filipone/Mancuso

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Strempfer

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

6. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

A) Police Department – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to accept the monthly billing as of 12/9/11, including animal control, in the total amount of \$ 11,231.01. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Strempfer.

Discussion: Commissioner Nelson questioned which vehicle needed extensive work. Chief DeMarco stated that the 2003 Ford Expedition needed front and rear rotors and pads, front discs and an oil change. He added that the vehicle does need tires. DC Hart added that the department only has two four wheel drive vehicles and they are doing their best to work with what they have until they see what new Ford vehicles come out next year.

Chief DeMarco took a moment to explain to the new commissioners that Ford has discontinued the Crown Victoria and has introduced the new Police Interceptor. DC Hart added that as a viable option, Ford is producing a Police Interceptor SUV as well.

Chief DeMarco further explained that the \$1026.98 expense is on the 2005 Ford Taurus to remove/replace the exhaust manifold and catalytic converter (this is the second converter).

The department is trying to limit the miles/exposure of the 2003 SUV and only use it when needed at this point. Commissioner Nelson explained to Commissioners Filipone and Mancuso that parts from replacement cars have been used in the Crown Victorias – now with the Interceptors, there may be a problem transferring parts into those cars. The Deputy Chief is working on this – even to modify former parts to fit into the new vehicles.

Commissioner Sauerhoefer commented that the cleaning bill is substantially lowered. Chief DeMarco commented that it is working as designed, going bill-by-bill as opposed to a lump amount.

Commissioner Filipone asked if this is a typical monthly billing, money wise. Chief DeMarco responded that it can fluctuate at times and that the department makes certain expenditures at the beginning of the year, however it is fairly typical.

No further discussion.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Strempfer/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to accept the monthly financial statement, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Strempfer. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Strempfer/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to approve the monthly billing as of 11/30/11 in the total amount of \$ 125.00. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Strempfer. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Strempfer/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to accept the police commission monthly financial statement, dated 11/30/11, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Stremper/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

8. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

Chief DeMarco stated that Deputy Chief Hart had done a preliminary report with regards to the “blind drive” sign request from 85 Tromley Rd (mentioned by Jason Bowsza at 11/9/11 meeting).

Deputy Chief Hart reported that the area is a relatively straight section of the road, with a slight incline on the North side of the road. DC reports that it is unclear if this entirely fits the needs of a Blind Drive sign. DC visited the location during the day and at night. DC also stated that the traffic sign regulations state that if in doubt of whether to place a sign, to err on the side of no sign as additional signs can be confusing to motorists. Commissioner Filipone commented that it seems there is a concern of speeding over the crest of the hill. Chief DeMarco agrees that it is more of a speed issue, not a blind drive issue. He added that the department can take action with traffic patrolling and STEP (Selective Traffic Action Program). Deputy Chief Hart agreed and added that at a normal speed, there is ample sight line for that driveway.

DC Hart will provide detailed information to Chairman Nelson in order to assign it a Traffic Authority number. Chief DeMarco concluded by stating that he will place this location on STEP for a couple of months.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Review and Approve 2012 Meeting Dates

MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to approve the 2012 meeting dates as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Stremper/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

All Commissioners were given an updated Member listed.

11. MONTHLY REPORTS:

- A) Chief of Police: Submitted a five page report to the Commissioners this month. Due to HIPPA, labor matters and law suits, issues within the report will be discussed during Executive Session.

Commissioner Filipone requested clarification with regards to recent issues at La Renaissance. Chief DeMarco explained that there have been some events at that location that have gotten out of control and have involved a large number of people with numerous incidences occurring outside the building. Chief briefly explained what has been occurring and that 7-8 mutual aid has needed to assist. He added that he has referred these incidences to the Liquor Commission and Fire Marshall. Chief explained that as long as the owner is following all town ordinances and state laws, then there is little that can be done to prevent the crowds of people attending parties there. Chief also added that he has put a sanction on the owner to pay for a minimum of four police officers (possibly up to six) for said events. Chief concluded by saying that the department is taking it step by step with the business and its activities.

- B) Commission Members: Commissioner Sauerhoefer asked if there have been any negotiations as of yet? Negotiations scheduled for December 23, 2011.

10. PUBLIC INPUT – Comments and Discussion (5 minutes maximum time per subject)

Selectwoman Dale Nelson (Omelia Rd) welcomed the new commission members and stated that they will do well.

Board of Finance member Kathleen Pippin (Woolam Rd) commented that she likes that the police are making a presence at some of the town meetings, specifically Planning and Zoning. Ms. Pippin added that she is grateful for the officers, as their presence sets the tone down at meetings. She is very appreciative and commented that some of the meeting could get out of hand and be dangerous with confrontations. Thank you (officers) for coming in.

Commissioner Stremper asked Selectwoman Nelson if she was going to be the selectman liaison for the Police Commission. Ms. Nelson responded that yes, she would, as well as with all other public safety boards/commissions.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to go into Executive Session for Legal Update and Personnel and HIPPA matters, to include Chief DeMarco, Deputy Chief Hart and First Selectwoman Denise Menard (7:35pm). **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Stremper/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session ended 9:25 pm.

No action taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Sauerhoefer made a **MOTION** to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:25pm. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Stremper/Filipone/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pellegrini - EWPC Recording Secretary