

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: July 10, 2013

East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer. Commissioners Stremper, Filipone and Mancuso were present as well as Chief of Police Edward DeMarco and Deputy Chief Roger Hart. Newly appointed Police Commissioner, Joan Eckel was present as well. Present in the audience were Selectwoman Dale Nelson and Board of Finance Chairman Jason Bowsza.

Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer introduced and welcomed newly appointed Police Commissioner Joan Eckel.

2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

MOTION made by Commissioner Stremper to add the election of officers for the Police Commission under Section (7) New Business of tonight's agenda. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Filipone. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Mancuso/Stremper/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to add the "Intersection of Main/Rye/Windsorville" for discussion under Section (6) Traffic Authority of tonight's agenda. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Mancuso/Stremper/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 12, 2013 regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members.

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the regular meeting minutes of 6/12/13.

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

ABSTAIN FROM VOTING: Eckel (not present at 6/12/13 meeting)

VOTING IN FAVOR: Mancuso/Stremper/Filipone

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

4. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

A) Police Department – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the monthly billing, including Animal Control, as of 7/5/13 in the amount of \$13,875.38. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

Discussion: Commissioner Filipone inquired about the Vehicle Maintenance amount of \$2380.33 on the monthly billing. Chief DeMarco responded that it was for a full transmission job on a 2004 vehicle.

No further discussion.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Stempfer/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly financial statement dated 7/5/13, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Stempfer/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Mancuso to approve the monthly billing as of 6/30/13 in the total amount of \$ 125.00. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Filipone. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Stempfer/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 6/30/13, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Stempfer/Filipone/Mancuso/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer took a moment to commend Chief DeMarco and Deputy Chief Hart of their outstanding work in keeping the community safe during the recent tornado event. Commissioner Filipone asked why the Police Commission did not hear of anything that the department was doing or from Emergency Management. Chief DeMarco responded that there were no injuries and the situation was managed with the existing staff, therefore there was no need to use Emergency Management.

6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

A) Intersection of Rye/Main/Windsorville: Chief DeMarco reported that enforcement has been done and there has been discussions regarding engineering issues at that intersection. Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer added that the Public Works Department is in the process of installing concrete

(stamped/raised) crosswalks in that area. Additionally, there will be line-striping and new signs placed. Commissioner Eckel suggested creating designated lined parking spots along the new sidewalk. Deputy Chief Hart stated that they are suggesting increasing the size of the stop signs and repainting the stop bars as well. Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer stated that Public Works is aiming to complete this before the start of school.

B) *Broad Brook Elementary School*: Deputy Chief Hart briefly reviewed the letter received from a resident regarding the crosswalks, fire lanes, illegal parking and pedestrian safety surrounding Broad Brook Elementary School. DC Hart had an opportunity to observe the area during the last week of the school year and took a few minutes to share his findings. He then stated that the issue will be addressed as a three-prong approach. He referred to the following areas: the physical aspect of the area (signs, lines, crosswalks, etc.), working with the school/parents to provide education and finally, enforcement. Within the discussion it was mentioned that the signage could be increased a bit and to insure that the lines are striped appropriately. After further discussion, DC Hart stated that the department will work to get a number of items into place before the start of the next school year (signage, lines, meeting with school officials to develop a plan to educate the parents). Additionally, he stated that there may be police presence during the first week of school in order to educate parents (that drop off) and provide information on parking and other safety issues. DC Hart explained that after the first week of school, enforcement will begin. Chief DeMarco added that he has spoken with Superintendent Dr. Kane regarding this issue as well. Additionally, Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer added that the Public Works Department is planning on placing a rail along the front edge of the sidewalk for safety purposes, including preventing people from crossing along there, with the purpose of leading them down to the crosswalk.

Commissioner Mancuso added that he has safety concerns over the parking along the fence area on Old Ellington Road (by the school's baseball fields). Brief discussion followed regarding parking issues in that vicinity. DC Hart added that there are not currently any general parking regulation documentations to fall back on. However, the Police Department has recently started a log to move forward. Additionally, DC Hart stated that this situation would also involve a multiple aspect approach of signs, education (to the EWLL), environmentally and possibly enforcement. Brief discussion continued.

C) *Mahoney Road – Speed Limit sign*: Vice-Chairman Sauerhoefer stated that an additional Stop sign has been placed on the WB side of Mahoney Road, as per the request of a former Police Commissioner. There has been increased traffic and speed recently, primarily due to the temporary closure of Route 140.

Commissioner Eckel questioned the purpose of both the Stop sign and Exempt Railroad Crossing sign on Highland Ave. Commissioner Eckel expressed concern over the fact that cars seem to ignore the stop sign and perhaps it isn't clear who is exempt. Discussion followed regarding the purpose of both signs and the liabilities tied to the potential removal of either sign. Discussed the effectiveness of the signs and also as seen at other locations in town (i.e. Depot St).

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A) (updated) *Election of Officers*:

MOTION made by Commissioner Strepfer to elect Vice-Chairman Joseph Sauerhoefer to Chairman. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Strepfer/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Chairman Sauerhoefer to elect Secretary Thomas Stremper to Vice-Chairman. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Sauerhoefer/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Vice-Chairman Stremper to elect Commissioner Edward Filipone to Secretary. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Eckel. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Stremper/Mancuso/Sauerhoefer/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

None

9. MONTHLY REPORTS:

A) Chief of Police: Commissioners received packet. Executive Session to include discussion of on-going criminal investigation issues as well as personnel items.

Chief DeMarco informed the commission that the memorial bench for Sharon Bourke has been purchased and the plaque has been ordered. It is on schedule to present at the next Police Commission meeting. Chief DeMarco has spoken with the family and it has been well received. Commission unanimously agreed to hold the August 14, 2013 Regular Police Commission Meeting at the Emergency Management Conference Room at the Town Hall Annex in order to present the memorial bench to the Bourke/Hannaford families prior to the start of the regular meeting. Additionally, Chairman Sauerhoefer stated that, with the commission's permission, he would like to ask (retired) Police Commissioner Cliff Nelson to attend and donate as he was Chairman of the Police Commission at the time of Sharon's passing. Commission unanimously agreed.

B) Commissioners: none

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

Selectwoman Dale Nelson (Omelia Rd, Broad Brook) commented that the town has been busy with many issues recently and she has noticed that the police are in great force. Ms. Nelson commended the department for their hard work and concluded by stating that it appears to be a good summer so far.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to enter into Executive Session to include Chief DeMarco and Deputy Chief Hart (7:42pm). **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Stremper/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session ended at 8:25pm.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Commissioner Mancuso to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:25pm. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Stremper/Mancuso/Filipone/Eckel

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pellegrini - EWPC Recording Secretary