

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING - Budget Workshop

January 8, 2014

East Windsor Police Department - Meeting Room

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Special Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Chairman Stremper. Commissioners Mancuso, Leach and Long were present. Commissioner Filipone was absent (excused). Also present were Chief of Police Edward DeMarco, Jr. and Deputy Chief of Police Roger Hart.

2. BUDGET WORKSHOP:

Budget Discussions for Fiscal Year 2014/2015: All line items reviewed and discussed. All agreed there are some deficiencies within the budget that must be addressed, specifically Training, Dispatch and Equipment. A Resource Officer position was also discussed. The following areas were discussed in depth:

1. All members agreed the department and the town would benefit from additional training that is not afforded within the current budget and that an increase would be necessary.

Chief DeMarco remarked, last year this line item (Conferences and Training) was decreased by the BOF. Currently this barely covers the minimum standards and mandated POST certifications.

Chief DeMarco also remarked the department has improvised training when possible.

All members agreed the training is necessary to reduce liabilities, promote officer safety and bring the department standards up to the latest strategies

All members agreed to draft the increase in the budget proposal.

2. Discussion among members turned to the BOF.

It was agreed by all that the Police Commission, Chief and Deputy Chief should be included in discussions with any possible cuts to the EWPB budget before they're implemented, if at all.

3. More discussion followed and concerns for an additional Dispatcher were raised. Dep. Chief Hart remarked when a vacancy arises many times the dispatcher position has to be filled by an officer (Sargent, Lieutenant or Corporal)

All agreed this isn't cost efficient and is a waste valuable resources.

All agreed to have an additional Dispatcher position drafted in the budget proposal to help serve the department and preserve resources.

4. Discussion moved to Schools and Children's Safety.

Chief DeMarco informed the commission that state grant money for a Resource Officer will not be realized. It was discussed that the BOE may cover half of the costs related with the PD picking up the other half. All agreed a Resource Officer would prove beneficial.

Chief DeMarco remarked he has a small pool of officers that could fill this position providing a police officer's mindset to build relationships within the school system.
A Resource Officer position will also be drafted in the budget proposal.

5. Discussion moved to Safety Equipment.

Chief DeMarco remarked the department is need of some specific officer safety equipment in current use that is outdated and in need of upgrades.
All members agreed the equipment upgrades are necessary for officer safety.
The upgraded equipment will also be drafted in the budget proposal.

6. Chief DeMarco remarked a new printer is urgently needed and funding could be allocated from the "Police Alarm Fund"

MOTION made by Commissioner Mancuso to allocate \$475.00 from existing unencumbered funds, Acct# 1-67-10-1025-7-798-1051-1 "Police Alarm Fund" in lieu of increasing EWPD budget to procure printer as needed. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Leach/Long/Mancuso/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

3. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Chairman Mancuso to adjourn the special meeting at 8:30pm. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No further discussion.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Mancuso/Leach/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pellegrini - EWPC Recording Secretary

On behalf of Commissioner Bob Leach, Secretary