

# ***EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION***

***REGULAR MEETING: June 11, 2014***

***East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room***

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## **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:55pm by Chairman Stremper. Commissioners Mancuso, Filipone, Leach and Long were present. Also present were Chief of Police Edward DeMarco, Jr. Selectwoman Dale Nelson (liaison – public safety) was present in the audience, as well as the EWPD Records Manager, Judy Tweedlie.

## **2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:**

Agenda #11, Executive Session: Chairman Stremper added Recording Secretary Interview to Executive Session.

## **3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

The minutes from the May 14, 2014 regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the regular meeting minutes of 5/14/14. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Long/Leach/Mancuso/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 dated 6/6/14, including Animal Control, in the total amount of \$7,440.11. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Leach questioned the expense for “Galls” at approximately \$3500.00. Chief DeMarco explained that the officers have \$950.00 for uniforms and this expense reflects the fact that many officers choose to use this before the end of the fiscal year.

**VOTE IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**B) Police Department – Financial Statement:** **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly financial statement dated 6/6/14, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing:** **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly billing as of 5/31/14 in the total amount of \$ 125.00. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**D) Police Commission – Financial Statement:** **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 5/31/14, as submitted. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A) Recording Secretary position: Moved to Executive Session for interview process, as stated above in Agenda item #2.

**6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:**

Chief DeMarco stated that he has three (3) items to address.

1. Chief DeMarco received a request from the Director of the CT Trolley Museum to place Railroad Crossing signs at the crossing on Borrup Road. Signage must come through the LTA and would be placed on both sides. Chief DeMarco spoke with DPW and they are currently out of those specific signs, but can be ordered.

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve and authorize the placement of Railroad Crossing signs, as warnings, on the Borrup Road crossing as requested by the CT Trolley Museum. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No further discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

2. The EWPD received a complaint from a new resident (1 Ellsworth Rd.) regarding the visibility of their driveway to traffic on the hill. Resident stated that it is difficult for traffic to see them exiting their driveway. Chief DeMarco stated that selective traffic enforcement was initiated and there appeared to be no abnormal activity. The assigned officer experienced the driveway entry/exit himself. Chief DeMarco drove by the residence to observe the area and recommends the placement of a Blind Drive sign.

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve and authorize the placement of a Blind Driveway sign at 1 Ellsworth Road, Broad Brook. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No further discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Chief DeMarco relayed, for informational purposes, that with the increase in industrial and commercial activity/businesses over time, there is a serious change in traffic on the Route 5 corridor, especially between Sophia's Plaza and Southern Auto. Complaints have come in regarding the traffic, lights and accidents. One specific common complaint is that the light on Newberry is less than 7 seconds which causes the I-91 connector to back up. A traffic study has been done in the past and as a result, the lights have been changed which was an improvement, but still an issue. There is an increase in the neighborhood traffic as well. Selective enforcement has been done on Newberry and Craftsman resulting in large traffic violations. Chief DeMarco states that he has ordered a (local) traffic study and a re-study has been requested at the DOT level. Chief states that the study will take months but he will update the Commission as needed.

Chief DeMarco adds that the state is receptive with regards to communicating complaints. The LTA will need to order more studies along the way and scrutinize, especially the corridor from Sophia's to Southern Auto. The issues are impacting the large taxpayers and impacting the side streets. Chief DeMarco stated that the department's internal study indicated, that despite the increase in traffic, there was not a large increase of accidents. Additionally, the report recognized environmental factors (i.e. hills, street parking) that affect traffic. Chief DeMarco explained that there are "traffic calming measures" that can be taken to address some of the issues however, these measures all include fees but are cost effective. Brief discussion continued.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

A) Chairman Stremper informed the commission that his term on the Pension Board expires in July, 2014. He presented the position to anyone on the commission who would like to represent the EWPC at meetings. There are four (4) meetings a year. Commissioner Filipone asked to speak with Chairman Stremper outside of tonight's meeting.

## **8. COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

## **9. MONTHLY REPORTS:**

A) Chief of Police: Commissioners received packet. Chief DeMarco discussed the following items that were included in the monthly report:

1. (Page 1) Deputy Chief Hart will return to the department on light-duty tomorrow.
2. (Page 2) Regarding the building/facility, there are health and safety items that need to be done. CIP has denied some of these issues.

Chief reports that an insurance claim has been filed for the fence and the department received \$16,000.00 from the claim. An additional \$16,000.00 is needed to complete the fence.

Additionally, Chief DeMarco stated that the carpet in high traffic areas (lobby, dispatch main hall) still needs replacement. He informed the commission that the Private Duty Fund is currently at approximately \$122,000.00 and is recommending that funds be used to complete the project for safety and health reasons. Chief DeMarco did stress that he does not feel the Private Duty Fund should drop below \$50-75,000.00, as a safety cushion. Also, any monies used from that fund for carpeting (and fence), would be “re-cooped” in the next 4-6 months. A breakdown of the funds needed to complete both projects is as follows:

Fence	\$16,000.00
Carpeting/paint	<u>20,000.00</u>
Total:	\$36,000.00 (leaving a balance of over \$85,000.00 in the Private Duty Fund.)

Discussion continued regarding other costs (painting) and the funding amount to authorize.

**MOTION** made by Chairman Stremper to authorize Chief DeMarco to use monies from the Private Duty Fund, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, and to be allocated as follows:

\$24,000.00	carpet/paint
<u>16,000.00</u>	fence
\$40,000.00	Total transfer from Private Duty Fund

with approximately \$81,800.00 remaining in the Private Duty Fund. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No further discussion.

**VOTING IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

3. (Page 3) Chief DeMarco updated the commission on the “Universal SRO Grant”. There had been a computer issue and they are now waiting on the town treasurer to approve information, as the government needs the new treasurer information. Chief reports that things are moving along for the grant.

**B) Commission Members:** none

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

Ms. Nelson announced the next Board of Selectman meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2014 and also that the budget has passed. Brief discussion of the budget.

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to enter into Executive Session (7:35pm) to include Chief Edward DeMarco. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

**VOTED IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to hire Judy Tweedlie as Recording Secretary.  
**SECONDED** by Commissioner Long.

**VOTED IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

First Selectman Denise Menard joined Executive Session at 8:00pm.

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to end Executive Session (8:30pm). **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long.

**VOTED IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

**VOTED IN FAVOR:** Filipone/Mancuso/Leach/Long

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Christine Pellegrini - EWPC Recording Secretary**