

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: November 12, 2014

East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Stremper. Commissioners Filipone, Mancuso and Long were present. Also present were Chief of Police Edward DeMarco, Jr. and Deputy Chief Roger Hart. Selectwoman Dale Nelson (liaison – public safety), Donna Cramer and Mary Velazquez were present in the audience.

2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

Agenda #7, New Business: Chief DeMarco added motion for Budget authorization.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the October 8, 2014, regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the regular meeting minutes of 10/08/2014. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No discussion.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Long/Filipone

ABSTAINED by Commissioner Mancuso

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 11/07/2014, including Animal Control in the total amount of \$8,560.26.

DISCUSSION: None.

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to approve the monthly financial statements, including Animal Control, as of November 7, 2014, as submitted. No discussion.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly billing as of 10/31/2014 in the total amount of \$125.00.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long. No discussion.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: MOTION made by Commissioner Mancuso to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 10/31/2014 for \$1,200.00 as submitted.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone. No discussion.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Chief DeMarco presented the budget proposal to the Police Commission. The budget for the town is in a new format in order to standardize it throughout the state of Connecticut. More than half of the proposed budget increase includes the Police Union 2% contract extension and \$47,000 for the Radio Console system.

- Lines 1,2,3,4 are contractual obligations which include Administrative salaries, Officer salaries, Dispatcher salaries, and Clerical salaries. The Animal Control Officer (ACO) salaries include two part-time ACO's with a proposal to increase the hours from 19 to 29 hours as requested by the community.
- The Part-Time Clerical position has a nominal increase.
- The Training salary is being increased due to higher costs at the Police Academy and contractual obligations.
- The Longevity amount has decreased due to the newness of the employees.
- The Professional Services account includes some new items due to the changed budget format.
 - The new Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) maintenance and repair of \$6,675 yearly is included in this line now. Deputy Chief Hart added that having the maintenance contract for Verint Audiolog Voice Recorder and the AFIS machine is the best choice to keep the systems running properly especially with new technology. He also noted the old AFIS system

was over seven years old and no longer had a service contract. There was a grant through the capital region which took care of the majority of this year's cost for the system, but we now have to lease the new machine at cost of \$6,675 yearly for five years.

- The Supplies & Equipment Account includes over \$47,000 for a Town wide radio system (dispatch console maintenance). This is a Town wide concern as Public Safety, Public Works, schools, and highway departments operate on the radio system. Currently the amount is built into the Supplies & Equipment budget, but the funding may be able to be moved or split up throughout the town or put on the Communications line.
- The Education and Dues Account has increased and reflects contractual obligations and mandated training requirements.
- The Uniforms line is reflective of new costs for items.
- The Capital Purchases line covers the cost for two new radar units replacing aging equipment for speed enforcement and accident reduction. The new line for Capital Purchases has a \$20,000 threshold.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Mancuso asked how we could go outside of the CIP process. Chief DeMarco explained it is due to exigent circumstances of the failing radio system.

The entire package is a 6.96% increase, but it is important to understand it includes the Police Union 2% contract extension and \$47,000 for the Radio Console system.

B) Commission Members: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to move forward with the budget as presented by Chief DeMarco.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

9. MONTHLY REPORTS:

None.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Filipone questioned the timeframe of the fence. Chief DeMarco explained the project was slightly delayed due to rain and other unforeseen issues. The fence company should be coming to the police department on November 14, 2014, and needs to install the motor for the gates.

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

Ms. Nelson asked if the blind drive sign was put up on Ellsworth Road. Chief DeMarco explained that has been completed. Ms. Nelson also asked if the closure of Melrose Road was completed. Chief DeMarco explained he met with the Board of Selectmen who required a 30 day legal notice warning of the closure which has been put in place. He has also notified Public Works and the permanent signs will go up on December 1, 2014.

Donna Cramer of 15 East Road and Mary Velazquez of 19 East Road are concerned with speeding cars on East Road. They state cars continually travel in excess of the posted limit and are worried backing out of the driveway and about their kids getting on and off the bus. Busses are active in the area from approximately 6:30am–9:00 am and 2:30pm–3:00pm. In addition, they state there is a hill that makes it difficult for cars to see what's ahead especially when they are speeding. They would like to know what could be done to alleviate the problem and offered suggestions of putting up a speed limit machine, putting up “slow” signs, and having an officer stationed on the road taking radar. Not too long ago they requested an officer to patrol for speeders and the officer had someone pulled over within five minutes. They believe security is preventative measure and not a reactive one.

Chief DeMarco will contact the two individuals in order to get complete details to come up with a resolution to meet their needs. The police department will follow the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) for officer patrols to that area. There are certain conditions in the town that create a higher need for traffic control such as Interstate 91. Chief DeMarco would like to purchase new radar boards, but the budget doesn't allow at this time.

Deputy Chief stated “slow” signs are not always the most effective plan and may not follow traffic regulations, but there are other ways to slow traffic such as increased patrols. They will check the area for current signage and physical conditions in order to come up with a plan of action. In addition, the radar board is not fully operable due to aging equipment (approximately 13 years old) and budget restraints for new ones.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to end Executive Session at 8:30pm.
SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED

12. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:30pm.
SECONDED by Commissioner Leach. No further discussion.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Filipone/Mancuso/Long

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tweedlie - EWPC Recording Secretary