

# EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: July 8, 2015

East Windsor Town Hall Meeting Room

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## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

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

## 2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

## 3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 10, 2015, regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to accept the regular meeting minutes of 06/10/2015.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Filipone. No discussion.

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

**ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

## 4. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

**A) Police Department – Monthly Billing:** **MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to accept the monthly billing as of July 2, including Animal Control, in the total amount of \$17,063.37.

**DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Leach asked what the bill from Van's RV Center was for. Deputy Chief Hart explained it was for the trailer heater that needed to be repaired.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No discussion.

**VOTED 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 statements, including Animal Control, as submitted.

**DISCUSSION:** Chairman Stremper stated the department did a good job working with the tight budget this year. Chief DeMarco stated we did the best job we could with the amount we had to work with. The money left over was given back to the town. Deputy Chief Hart added that we do still have some overtime and bills to pay that are pending.

Commissioner Filipone questioned what the Animal Control Dog Fund Account in the amount of \$6443.11 is for. Chief DeMarco explained it is money that comes from licensing. The Treasurer's office manages this money which rolls over yearly. Deputy Chief Hart added that we are sometimes allowed to use the money to offset expenditures such as vehicle equipment. Chief DeMarco also added that for next year's budget he will continue to keep the police commission apprised of any expenditures. Also, he will notify the Board of Finance as soon as possible if we need to transfer any money or get an added appropriation. Commissioner Mancuso asked what was happening with the cruiser cameras. Chief DeMarco explained the Capital Improvement Committee has not met yet. A conversation continued about the need for proactive and reactive services from the police department and how different types of service require additional funding for the police department.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

**VOTED 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 6/30/2015 in the total amount of \$125.00.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: MOTION** made by Commissioner Leach to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 6/30/2015 for \$100.00 as submitted.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No discussion.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

## **6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:**

Chief DeMarco stated the No Parking signs have been put up on Craftsman Road due to the complaints, risks of motor vehicle accidents, the law, and after a complex traffic study. Currently, some business owners have complained about the signs, but we have explained this is the law and vehicles must be ticketed if they are parked in any No Parking zones. Also, we originally requested that the Craftsman Road speed limit be set at 30 miles per hour (mph). The current median speed being driven is 34 mph. The DOT has concluded their investigation and they concur the speed limit should be 30 mph and they are authorizing us to switch the speed limit from 25 mph to 30 mph. They have also suggested that we add extra

advisory signs and believe we should continue the 30 mph speed limit all the way from Thompson Road to Route 5. Deputy Chief Hart added that state engineers did a site survey and are also suggesting a 30 mph speed limit. Chief DeMarco is requesting permission from the police commission to make all of Thompson Road and all of Craftsman Road a 30 mph speed limit.

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to make all of Thompson Road and all of Craftsman Road a 30 mph speed limit.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso. No discussion.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

New Officer interviews to be done at the beginning of Executive Session.

## **8. COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

## **9. MONTHLY REPORTS:**

Commissioner Filipone asked if the fence works. Chief DeMarco explained the fence is operating. Commissioner Leach mentioned that someone has complained about speeding on Rye Street. Chief DeMarco stated if there is a complaint about speeding the people need to call the police department while it is happening because specific details will help us address the issue; we will add it to the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP). In addition, Chief DeMarco said people also need to call us if they have ATV complaints while it's happening. When we put some information out on social media regarding ATV riding, there was a 50/50 mix of responses regarding ATV's. Although some people have permission to ride on land, others don't and create a disturbance especially if they are riding in the late night/early morning hours. The police department does everything they can to alleviate any issues, but there is a great deal of land and openings for riders to get through. This is not just a police department issue, but a community issue.

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

Ms. Nelson stated there was an article on July 3rd in the Journal Inquirer regarding a bill that would require more training on sensitivity and the use of force. She said it talked about the bill requiring the use of body cameras and wanted to know if there was money available for it. She also wanted to know if the software would be the same for the cruiser cameras and the body cameras. Deputy Chief Hart explained the complex bill was signed and has to do with a lot of diversity training that will be implemented at the Police Officers Standards and Training (POST) academy. There are also portions of the bill that talk about having a large portion of your population that is a minority content, but the exact numbers and details are not defined.

We don't believe we fall into this category and will have to wait until the law has more specific details. For the body cameras, if you apply for a grant for the cameras (after January 2016) OPM will be starting to work on this grant program. If you purchase them now you will be reimbursed 100% and then you will be required to wear them. Chief DeMarco added that the cruiser cameras will be our first step and we will look into the body cameras as the technology gets better and they work out the legal issues. Some of these concerns can be an inundation of Freedom of Information Act requests (FOIA) which would require a great deal of man power and time to act on these requests. FOIA requests often have to be redacted if they have juvenile information, informant information, people not involved in the incident, etc. Hours of video would have to be reviewed and possibly redacted in order to process requests. Furthermore, our computers would need to be updated to run/edit the videos and training would have to be set up for video editing. Also, we need to find out how the cameras and software will be paid for and who will take care of the monetary maintenance and/or any cameras that break. Deputy Chief Hart added we would like to get cruiser cameras to have software that would also work with the body cameras so we could use the same program for both. The grant looks like it goes until late 2017/early 2018 so hopefully in that time period the technology will catch up to the needs of the department and our community.

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to enter into Executive Session (7:35pm) to include Chief DeMarco and Deputy Chief Hart.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Filipone.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Mancuso to end Executive Session at 8:35pm.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Filipone

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Leach (8:40 pm) to authorize Chief DeMarco to make a conditional offer of employment to Candidate #1 Zachery Sherman and Candidate #2 Daniel Tessier. Also, to authorize Chief DeMarco to make a conditional offer of employment to Candidate #3 Stephen Pernal contingent upon the failure of either candidates #1 or #2 to complete the hiring process.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Mancuso.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to adjourn the special meeting at 8:42pm.

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Long. No further discussion.

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

**ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Judith Tweedlie - EWPC Recording Secretary**