



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014
TOWN HALL SOUTH CONFERENCE ROOM
3 MAIN STREET, NEWTOWN

**These minutes are not finalized until approved
At the next regularly scheduled meeting.*

Chairman Paul Mangiafico called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

PRESENT: Brian Budd, James Viadero, Andrew Sachs, Joel Faxon, and Paul Mangiafico

ABSENT: none

ALSO PARTICIPATION: Captain Jose Rios, Union President Scott Ruszczyk, 1 member of the press, and 2 members of the public.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: none

POLICE UNION PARTICIPATION: Union President Ruszczyk indicated that everything was good.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON THE MINUTES FOR: Regular Meeting January 7, 2014 and the Special Meeting January 28, 2014: Commissioner Faxon moved to accept the minutes from the regular meeting January 7, 2014 as corrected and the minutes from the special meeting January 28, 2014 as presented. Commissioner Budd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Correction to minutes of January 7: Andrew Sachs was absent

CHIEF'S REPORT: As Chief Kehoe was absent, Captain Rios provided the report. **Personnel Report:** Hiring Update – Captain Rios reported that three officers were currently in the academy and Officer Jeff Silver was promoted to Sergeant. The Captain noted that the promotion was well deserved. He indicated that the three new hires started training the first week of January. The Captain added that the new hires are scheduled to graduate from the Police Academy June 18 and start 4 months of Field Training before becoming independent. **Budget:** Overtime (OT) Sheet 2013-2014 - Captain Rios informed Police Commissioners that the figures for the month of January are incomplete due to personnel being out in Records but advised them that they were still compiling the data. He stated that looking at the average OT for November and December, the OT for January was probably \$60,000. Chairman Mangiafico indicated that the Police Department had spent approximately \$221,000 in OT to date. He reminded his fellow Police Commissioners that the Budget they submitted did not have OT amounts for the school security officers. Captain Rios stated that the Department was well over what was budgeted. FY Budget 2014-2015 – The Captain referred Commissioners to the FY 2014 -2015 Budget spread sheet in front of them and stated that this was what was presented to Mrs. Llodra and the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Mangiafico reported that the meeting with the Board of Selectmen was relatively non-controversial and added that his part in the meeting was only about 10 minutes.

The Chairman indicated that except for the increases related to contract negotiations, there is no money in the budget for increases. **Training Report:** Captain Rios told Police Commissioners that the training report was in their packets. Alluding to some of the report's contents, the Captain indicated that Officer Felicia Figol graduated K-9 training with her dog Saint, SWAT training took place, and the Department will be involved in the Torch Run kick-off. **Letters of Gratitude:** Captain Rios informed the Board that there was a letter of gratitude regarding the service and actions of Officer McCarthy. **Correspondences:** FY 2014 DUI Program – The Captain reported that the grant for the very successful DUI Program will run through Labor Day. He added that the Town gets reimbursed 75% of the cost of the program by the State DOT. Toddy Hill No Turn on Red – Captain Rios reported that the light at the intersection of Toddy Hill had been upgraded and that a new stop bar was in place. New PR1(Paperless MVA Report) – The Captain stated that in the ongoing effort to go paperless, the Department worked with a vendor to launch a paperless Motor Vehicle Accident report. He added that the new report is 15 pages long instead of the current paper report which is only 2 pages long. The Captain indicated that the officers will be spending more time doing reports and he will be keeping an eye on it. Commissioner Faxon asked if the Officer would fill the new 15-page report out at the scene and suggested that they would need more training with regards to utilizing the report. He suggested that in terms of efficiency of operation the Board needs to think long and hard about that and about how detailed that will be. Commissioner Budd noted that the other big change with the paperless report is that the mapping is all electronic now. Commissioner Faxon suggested that filling out the form will be much more labor intensive and asked the Captain to provide a sample of the information needed for the new 15-page report for the Board's next meeting. **K-9 Program Update - Completed Training/On Duty:** Captain Rios reported that Officer Felicia Figol did graduate from the K-9 program with the Department's new canine, Saint; and they are working out in the field. He noted that everyone is pleased a dog is back and working again. Chairman Mangiafico asked how old Saint is and Captain Rios stated he is less than 2. **Ongoing Projects Update PD:** Captain Rios reminded Police Commissioners of the meeting they had a week or two ago with Scott Cicciari who launched the Newtown Police Department Building Fund and the group's spokesman, Redding Police Chief Doug Fuchs, a former member of the Newtown Police Department. He added that he gives a lot of credit to Mr. Cicciari for his effort to solicit funds. The Captain also reminded them of the Space Needs Study that was done by Brian Humes over a year ago which came up with a drawing for the Newtown Police Department Facility going forward. He added that the study estimated how many officers there will be, what size building is necessary, where the best place for the building will be, and what amount of parking will be necessary. Chairman Mangiafico indicated that the conclusion was that the current building could not accommodate the needs. Captain Rios said that was true. **Police Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) Negotiations Start Soon:** Captain Rios reported that the current CBA is up June 30 and that they would be entering into negotiations again in March. He said that any feedback on the CBA from the Board is welcome.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT: Incident Analysis Written Reports for November 2012 – December 2013: Captain Rios informed Commissioners that they had the written report for November 2012 to December 2013 in their packets, but indicated that the number of DUI arrests - 10 and the number of Cell Phone Violations – 28 infractions, 37 written warnings were from November 2013 to December 2013. **Monthly Traffic Enforcement Unit Report for January 2014 – Written Report by Sgt Bahamonde:** Captain Rios told Commissioners they had a copy of the report. He stated that it was great to see Officer Steve Ketchum back out there; and he noted that now with the promotion of Officer Silver to Sergeant, they were back down to two officers in the Traffic Enforcement Unit. In reviewing the information provided, Commissioner Faxon asked what a "new call" was and the Captain said he had no answer for him but would find out.

Monthly Detective Division Report for December 2013-January 2014 – Written report by Lt. Robinson: Captain Rios reported that a copy of Lt. Robinson's report was in the packets. He noted that the report indicates the investigations the division has been busy with in regards to Larcenies and Burglaries as well as they number of warrants that have been served.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion on State Project Rte. 302 and Elm Drive area: Captain Rios informed the Board that the State was going to look at the intersection of Route 302 and Ram's Pasture. He said that officials were considering widening the right turn cue and needed to move three power poles as well as conduit work. The Captain said that it was suggested that if the State was going to put money into the project why not put sidewalks up to make the intersection safer for pedestrians. He indicated that Federal and State funds will be used and the project is to begin in 2015. He noted that there was a meeting on the project February 11 at 7 pm in the Municipal Center.

Discussion on Sub Committee-PD Facilities: Chairman Mangiafico stated that the there had been a discussion on the fundraising for a new police department facility. He said that it was suggested at that session that the Board of Police Commissioners should have a subcommittee involved in this to become part of it. The Chairman told fellow Police Commissioners that there should be two parts to this endeavor: 1) the fundraising and 2) they need to know what they want to do and where to do it. He said the NPD Facilities Sub-Committee would need do decide where the best location is for a new facility and decide what to do to expand the PD HQ which is presently inadequate. Chairman Mangiafico suggests that a sub-committee would be more effective than a full Board. He said he was pleased to announce that Police Commissioners Sachs and Viadero had stepped forward to serve on the sub-committee and suggested that the Board vote on setting up the committee that evening. The Chairman said this would allow Commissioners Viadero and Sachs the opportunity to set up the subcommittee to include Scott Ciccari and Doug Fuchs as well as anyone else who would like to be involved. Chairman Mangiafico recommended that the sub-committee meet once a month and keep the Board informed.

Commissioner Faxon agreed with the Chairman. He stated that if there is going to be any interest from the private sector they are going to need to see progress.

Commissioner Faxon said that the sub-committee needs to aggressively seek a new facility to get the Police Department into the 20th Century let alone the 21st Century.

Commissioner Faxon moved to form a sub-committee with respect to modernization and establishment of an upgraded facility with Commissioners Sachs and Viadero being members. Commissioner Budd seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

COMMISSIONERS PARTICIPATION: Chairman Mangiafico reported that every year the Police Commissioners Association which he is a member of picks three Chiefs of Police and honors them as distinguished Chiefs of Police. He said he was pleased to inform the Board that this year Chief Kehoe was picked as one of the distinguished Chiefs. The Chairman added that the Chief was nominated by Chief Gary MacNamara and will be honored in May.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Budd moved to adjourn at 8:15 pm, Commissioner Faxon seconded and the motion unanimously carried.

Ted Swigart, Clerk



POLICE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
WWW.PCACT.ORG

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John Landolfi
North Branford

January 11, 2014

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North Branford

Chief Gary MacNamara
Fairfield Police Department

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Middlebury

Ref: Chief Michael Kehoe, Newtown Police Department

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Bridgeport

Dear Chief MacNamara,

Treasurer
Marvin B. Gelfand
Easton

Congratulations! I am pleased to notify you that your nomination of Chief Michael Kehoe for the Distinguished Chief Award presented by the Police Commissioners Association of Connecticut has been favorably reviewed by our Board of Directors. Chief Kehoe will be one of three Distinguished Chiefs recognized for his accomplishments and dedication to duty, to his department, and to the citizens he serves.

Assistant Treasurer
Deborah Wright
West Haven

Sergeant at Arms
Sandy Wright
East Haven

The Board of Directors, in choosing Chief Kehoe, took into account his exceptional list of educational achievements and his dedication to the Law Enforcement Community, serving on Boards and committees too numerous to mention. In addition to his numerous achievements, Chief Kehoe's leadership during the worst school violence incident in our nation's history on December 14, 2012 was monumental. We also took into consideration that he has been an integral part in dealing with the aftermath and recovery of his department, and his ability to work with the community to build trust and move forward.

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The Police Commissioners Association will be honoring Chief Kehoe at our Dinner Meeting on May 28, 2014 at Grassy Hill Country Club in Orange, CT.

As the person responsible for nominating Chief Kehoe for this recognition, we would ask that you do the honors of notifying Chief Kehoe of his selection as Distinguished Chief. We welcome Chief Kehoe to bring a guest, compliments of the Association.

Best regards,

John Landolfi
North Branford Police Commissioner
President, PCAC
eldojohn@comcast.net

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Karen Winne
karenwinne@outlook.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Carl Battista

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