



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD TUESDAY, December 2, 2014
TOWN HALL SOUTH CONFERENCE ROOM
3 MAIN STREET, NEWTOWN

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

Chairman Mangiafico called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Brian Budd, Joel Faxon, Andrew Sachs, Virgil Procaccini, and Paul Mangiafico

ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Michael Kehoe, Captain Jose Rios, Union President Scott Ruszczyk and 1 member of the press, 2 members of the public

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Faxon moved to go into Executive Session at 6:05 pm under General Statute 1-200 Subsection 6 for discussion concerning the employment and performance of public officers and employees. He invited Chief Kehoe and Captain Rios to attend. Commissioner Budd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

At this time the clerk, press and public waited outside the meeting room.

Commissioner Sachs joined the Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

The Commissioners came out of Executive Session at 8:04 pm.

Commissioner Faxon moved to promote Sergeant David Kullgren to the position of Lieutenant effective immediately, to promote Officer Matthew Wood to the position of Sergeant effective immediately and to promote Officer Scott Ruszczyk to the position of Sergeant effective May 1, 2015. Commissioner Budd seconded and the motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Jennifer Stoltz, 23 Charter Ridge, told the Board she had a petition signed by the neighbors to get a stop sign at the intersection of Charter Ridge and Canterbury Road. She indicated that as it is now there is a long straightaway where cars gather speed on Charter Ridge and they are all concerned for the safety of their children.

Chief Kehoe said he was familiar with the area and will have someone look at it.

Mrs. Stoltz stated that there was a speed box there over the summer.

The Chief said he would assign a supervisor to review it and send officers out to check the intersection to see if it was suitable for a stop sign. He added that stop signs were not normally put up the control speed of traffic, but assured her there were other methods.

Mrs. Stoltz suggested a speed table and Chief Kehoe indicated that would be one of the things they looked at.

Commission Faxon explained that they had a manual of national traffic control standards they consulted for the appropriate method to make the area safer.

POLICE UNION PARTICIPATION: Union President Rusczyk thanked the Chief for his efforts in contract negotiations and said the Town had met the Union half way. He also stated that he didn't think they were far away from a contract.

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON THE MINUTES FOR: Regular Meeting

November 4, 2014: Commissioner Budd moved to accept the minutes from the regular meeting November 4, 2014. Commissioner Faxon seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion on Partnership Opportunity – Cyclist 3-Foot Rule – Chairman Mangiafico reminded fellow Police Commissioners that they had asked Steve Tramosch of the Sound Cyclists Bicycle Club to supply them with the Club's recommendations of the streets they wanted to place the Cyclist 3-foot Rule signs on and rank them according to their priority – high, medium and low. The Chairman said the club did just that and returned their list quite quickly. He added that he felt all its picks and priorities were good. He stated that the Club was supplying the signs and thinks the next step is to have them contact the Highway Department.

Chief Kehoe told the Board that they need to phase the signs in, putting up new posts at the gateways of the roads He suggested that he would sit down with the Director of Public Works Fred Hurley when the ground thaws in the spring and ask him what they have available and what man power they can provide. The Chief added as an example that they might put 6 of the signs up in the spring and another six up in the fall.

Commissioner Faxon moved to phase in deployment of the Cyclist 3-foot Rule signs at the discretion of the highway department starting in the spring. Commissioner Sachs seconded and the motion unanimously carried.

Alarm Ordinance – Chairman Mangiafico reminded the Board that they had discussed the alarms and the significant manpower it takes to respond to them. He added that every time an alarm goes off two officers need to respond to it.

The Chairman stated that he and the chief met with two very knowledgeable experts from the Security Industry Alarm Coalition Glen Mallory and Tom Sweeney, both of whom had previous law enforcement experience. He said they met for over an hour and suggested that they meet with the Board of Police Commissioners during a special session.

Chairman Mangiafico assured Board members that their meetings with the two experts were free. Chief Kehoe stated that the Coalition was built around law enforcement agencies and alarm companies.

Police Commissioners proposed to add the item onto the beginning of their regular meeting's agenda on January 6, 2015.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Personnel Report – New Hires – Chief Kehoe reported that probationary officer Michael Caramadrie would start immediately following his graduation on December 18, 2014. Sworn Personnel – The Chief said they reviewed their status and are moving forward.

Budget – Budget 2015/2016 – Chief Kehoe informed Police Commissioners that he had included the budget timetable from the Finance Director in their packets. He stated that the First Selectman and the Finance Director were looking for a budget. He reassured the Board it was 90% done and recommended they hold a special meeting the week of December 15.

The Board agreed to hold the special meeting on December 16 at 6 pm and also agreed to put a second item on the agenda pertaining to Hook and Ladder's proposed building on Church Hill Road.

Fleet – The Chief reported that they were still keeping up with the fleet. **Training Report** – Chief Kehoe reminded the Board that a copy of the report was in their packet. He added that Captain Rios and Lt. Gallagher were attending the Leadership Institute with Dr. McCabe at Sacred Heart University. According to Captain Rios, they would be finishing up in March 2015.

Letters of Gratitude – Chief Kehoe stated that the Explorers had received a letter from Chief Doug Fuchs. The Chief suggested that he wanted the Board to meet with the Explorers again.

NPD Building Fund – Chief Kehoe informed the Board that Scott Cicciari who was heading the fund had sent out all the flyers. **Station Meeting** – The Chief reported that the recent Station Meeting went well and was well attended. He said that the officers worked on resiliency planning and were looking forwards to doing things as a group.

CAPTAIN’S REPORT: Calls for Service Reports for October 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014 -

Captain Rios reported that motor vehicle stops in October (839) were down from September but DUI arrests (5) were up. The Captain added that there were 47 cell phone violations – 27 infractions and 20 written warnings. **Detective Division Report for October 2014 – Written report by Lt. Robinson** – The Captain informed Police Commissioners that there were 4

Burglaries, 5 Larcenies and 2 Narcotics incidents. He told the Board that the department recently took part in a mock shooter training exercise with the Board of Education and the Newtown Ambulance Association. The Captain commended Lt. Robinson for doing a great job working with MHA out of Arizona to organize the Table Top Exercise. Captain Rios said it was their third such Table Top Exercise and they are planning a fourth. The Captain said it showed the strength in the community and the coordination with the schools. **DUI grant/check point: November 22, 2014** – Captain Rios reported that they had a large seizure of Marijuana in the

check point held between the hours of 7 am and 3 pm on Trades Lane and Wasserman Way November 22, 2014. The Captain added that the DUI patrol will be out through January 2015.

NEW BUSINESS: Budget Transfer – Chief Kehoe indicated that the transfer of \$60,000 from Salaries and Wages Full-Time to Salaries and Wages Over-Time was necessary due to the overtime caused by the lack of personnel.

Commissioner Faxon moved to transfer \$60,000 from account 1-101-12-310-5100-0000 Salaries & Wages – Full-Time to account 1-101-12-310-5130-0000 Salaries & Wages – Over-Time. Commissioner Sachs seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS PARTICIPATION: Chairman Mangiafico addressed a letter they had received from Ryan Knapp dated November 5. The Chairman indicated that Mr. Knapp expressed concerns about the things that are discussed at the table by the Board of Police Commissioners suggesting that the audience doesn’t have all the information in front of them. According to Chairman Mangiafico, Mr. Knapp wants all the information provided to the Board in the minutes.

The Chairman suggested he would talk to Mr. Knapp about his concerns and go over a few things.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

Commissioner Budd made the motion to adjourn at 9 pm. Commissioner Sachs seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Ted Swigart, Clerk