

Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting
May 25, 2021
Police Headquarters
8 Linsley Street
6:00 p.m.

Chairman Larry Lazaroff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Larry Lazaroff, Vice Chairman Robin Wilson, Commissioners Marc Calafiore and Robert Hannon

Absent: Commissioner Alden Mead

Others present: Police Chief Kevin Glenn and Deputy Chief Stanley Lofquist

Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting both Regular and Executive Session. Commissioner Calafiore made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Correspondence:

Chief Glenn received a thank you letter from Branford Police Chief Jon Mulhern thanking the department for their assistance during an active shooter incident in their town. Chief Mulhern praised the efforts of SWAT team commander Lieutenant Joe Woznyk, Officers Alan Cantele and Nick Costanzo as well as the entire South Central Regional SWAT team.

Chief Glenn received a thank you letter from Jason Hiruo, Director of ACES security, thanking the department for their efforts during a recent bomb threat at their school.

First Selectman Michael Freda shared a thank you letter that he received from Kara Sepulveda of the Quinipiack Valley Health District thanking Chief Glenn and Captain Stavrides for working diligently with them on the partnership with the newly formed Overdose Surveillance Platform, ODMAP.

Chief Glenn received a thank you letter from Clintonville Elementary School Principal Loretta Dowling who praised officers Cantele, Dahlstrom and Artaiz for their outstanding support with traffic assistance due to a detour from a nearby construction project. Dowling stated she appreciated the officer's efforts in keeping the added vehicle traffic safe for the students, staff and parents.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Lazaroff stated that in 1962 President John F. Kennedy declared May 15th as National Police Officers Memorial Day which honors police officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. Chairman Lazaroff spoke of a recently added police officer retiree plaque in the police department lobby and highlighted the one gold name plate in honor of officer Timothy Laffin who lost his life in the line of duty. Chairman Lazaroff offered his

respect to the Laffin family and also acknowledged the recent loss of New Haven firefighter Ricardo Torres who lost his life while fighting a fire. Chairman Lazaroff asked for a moment of silence in honor of both men.

Chairman Lazaroff again reminded residents and those watching to please be vigilant and lock your cars, homes and sheds at all times.

Chairman Lazaroff reminded everyone with the summer months coming up and the end of the school year nearing to please be cautious when driving and be aware of additional pedestrian traffic and children at play.

Chief's Report/ Budget

Chief Glenn reported the budget is currently 3.5% under with only three pay periods left and in good shape. The 2021/2022 budget has passed the referendum which will allow the department to add three additional police officers. Chief Glenn thanked Chairman Lazaroff and the entire town for their support.

Traffic:

Chief Glenn reported that the milling and paving project is half way completed. He reminded motorists to use caution while travelling in these areas be aware of the presence of raised man holes, construction crews, and police officers.

Recently completed was the upgrading of two railroad crossings. The upgrade on the Spring Road and Laydon Avenue crossing is completed but will require additional work to remove a speed bump created by the upgrade. Signage has been put in place to warn motorists of an upcoming bump as well as caution signs to reduce speeds to 10 mph. The second railroad crossing upgrade on Clintonville Road has been completed. Officers assisted motorists with the detours. Chief Glenn thanked the public for their patience during both projects.

Chief Glenn reported that the traffic signage voted on last month for Cloudland Road and adjacent streets has arrived and should be installed this week.

Chief Glenn advised the Board that he recently received a letter from the Nelcon Service Center requesting a second spot on the tow board. Chief Glenn explained that the tow board currently utilizes three service centers in town on a rotating schedule for necessary vehicle tows, Nelcon being one of them.

Nelcon has recently opened a second licensed location and has requested to be added as a second spot on the tow list rotation. Chief Glenn has asked Sergeant DePascale to research with other municipalities and he will report to the Board his findings.

The Memorial Day parade will take place on Saturday, May 29th. All officers will participate by either marching or with traffic detail.

A signage request was received from a business owner on Old Broadway East. The request for “No Parking Signs” to be placed on one side of the street so that vehicles, tractor trailers and emergency apparatus will have access to all businesses on the road. The request states there is an ongoing issue with vehicles parking on both sides of the street making it nearly impassable. A brief discussion was held by the Board. Chairman Lazaroff requested they table the request until next month to allow time to gather more information and discuss other options before making a decision on the signage request.

Concerts on the Green will resume this year starting July 6th and will run through August 17th. Officers will be staffed for security and traffic duty.

The High School graduation date is set for June 15th. Officers will be staffed for security and traffic duty.

Deputy Chief Lofquist provided the Board with a CALEA update.

Chief Glenn stated the department is now advertising for an entry level or certified lateral police officer position. Anyone interested in applying can go to Policeapp.com. The deadline is June 30. Chief stated the positions are for one currently open spot as well as the addition of three new officers due to the budget passing.

Chief Glenn provided the Board with some year to date crime numbers. The current numbers show crime is higher now than this time last year. Chairman Lazaroff asked if the numbers are somewhat askew due to COVID. Chief Glenn stated calls for service are much higher since COVID and he will gather more data of a two-year comparison and provide it to him at next month’s meeting.

Walter T. Berniere Scholarship:

Chief Glenn received three requests for consideration.

A request from Captain Andrew Stavrides for one graduate course.

A request from Lieutenant Joe Woznyk for one graduate course.

A request from Officer Rich DePalma for one under graduate course.

The motion to grant the requests was made by Commissioner Hannon seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson.

All were in favor.

Chairman Lazaroff publicly thanked the Greater New Haven Probus Club, and Les Faiman for their recent donation of 24 blankets to be placed in the police vehicles. The donation is part of their “Warm Wishes” project.

With nothing further Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to adjourn to move to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hannon seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. All were in favor. The time was 6:17 p.m.

At 6:31p.m. the Board returned to Regular Session. Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. The time was 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Calafiore, Secretary

Minutes by P. Clafin