

Board of Police Commissioners
Special Meeting
February 19, 2020
Police Headquarters
8 Linsley Street
6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Larry Lazaroff.

Present: Chairman Larry Lazaroff, Vice Chairman Robin Wilson, Commissioners Alden Mead, Marc Calafiore and Bob Hannon

Others present: Police Chief Thomas McLoughlin and Deputy Police Chief Kevin Glenn

Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing for the position of a Supernumerary Police Officer.

The motion to enter Executive Session was made by Vice Chairman Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. All were in favor.

At 7:15 p.m. the Board reconvened to Regular Session.

Commissioner Calafiore made a motion that Jim McKenna be appointed a Supernumerary Police Officer, where he would temporarily assume a School Resource (SRO) position. Further that the appointment was conditional that McKenna successfully pass a polygraph, psychological exam, medical exam and drug screen and an in-depth background investigation. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2020 meeting, both Regular and Executive Session. Commissioner Mead made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Hannon. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to approve the monthly reports for the month of January 2020. The motion to approve the reports was made by Commissioner Hannon seconded by Vice Chairman Wilson. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Correspondence

Chief McLoughlin received a thank you letter from Chairman Lazaroff thanking Officer AJ Santagata for his professionalism during a response to a 911 call.

Chief McLoughlin received a thank you letter from a resident who fell victim to fraudulent activities. The resident commended Officer Maureen O'Keeffe for her assistance and professionalism.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Lazaroff stated that members of the Board recently met with Officer Cantele regarding the requirements and responsibilities of being a K9 handler and stated he is in favor of getting a German Shepherd over a Labrador for the next department K9. Members of Board agreed with the Chairman.

There was a discussion regarding the steps necessary to move forward with getting another police dog.

Chief McLoughlin said there should be funding available for the purchase of a K9. Chief McLoughlin said he will reach out to the CT. State Police to see what the availability is for upcoming training classes. Chief McLoughlin said the class probably won't be until September or October of this year.

Chief McLoughlin said he will draft a notice to the Officers to see if there is any interest and move forward from there.

Chief McLoughlin said he feels there is a push from inside to the Board to make this happen quickly and he stated that this is a very special assignment and this position cannot be handed to just anyone, adding that we need to be sure the right handler is chosen. This position requires a serious commitment for at least the next ten years, one cannot decide six months later that they do not want to do it anymore and just give it up.

Chief McLoughlin said the interested parties must have sponsorship from their supervisor, a good attendance and work record. Chief said once a list is decided, the Connecticut State Police Canine Unit will be brought in to interview the candidates. The candidates will also be required to take part in a physical agility test.

Chairman Lazaroff thanked Chief McLoughlin for moving forward with this assignment.

Chairman Lazaroff complimented the Department on the increased visibility of blue lights on the cruisers and also for the uptick in traffic stops this month.

Chief's Report

Chief McLoughlin stated that his report would be somewhat brief tonight due to February being a short month and the fact that this meeting was pushed up one week early.

Chief McLoughlin stated the Budget workshop is also scheduled at town hall tonight at 8:15p.

Chief McLoughlin advised residents and those watching a home of recent complaints of telephone scams. Chief McLoughlin assured residents that the Federal Government will not solicit by telephone for payments nor demand gift cards for payment. Be aware of this activity and call the department if you have any concerns or questions. Chief McLoughlin said if something doesn't seem right is probably isn't.

Walter T. Berniere Scholarship

Chief McLoughlin did not receive any requests for consideration this month

Budget:

Chief McLoughlin stated the budget is staying within his expectations.

Uniformed Services /ISU:

One commercial burglary was reported at a Chinese restaurant in the Montowese section of town.

One non-fatal overdose was reported.

Two vehicle burglaries were reported. One vehicle was left unlocked, and one was a forced entry.

The report of one stolen vehicle turned out to be a family member using the vehicle without permission.

Traffic/Support Services /Professional Standards:

Chief McLoughlin spoke regarding a signage request from last month for placement of a stop sign at the corner of Locke Drive and Spring Road, and also one at Locke Drive and Stanton Road. A stop sign was already approved for Locke Drive & Spring Road so the missing one was replaced. Chief McLoughlin concurred with Sergeant DePascale's findings in his detailed report along with the traffic data collected and stated that he agreed with Sergeant DePascales recommendation that Locke Drive at Stanton Road does not need additional signage at this time.

Chairman Lazaroff stated he agreed that no additional signage is necessary at Locke and Stanton and asked for a motion to leave the intersection as is. The motion was made by Commissioner Hannon and seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. There was no discussion. All were in favor.

Officer Carter is in her third week of field training and doing well.

Chief McLoughlin had nothing further to report at this time.

With nothing further, Chairman Lazaroff asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Calafiore, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. All were in favor.

The time was 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Calafiore, Secretary

Minutes by P. Claflin