

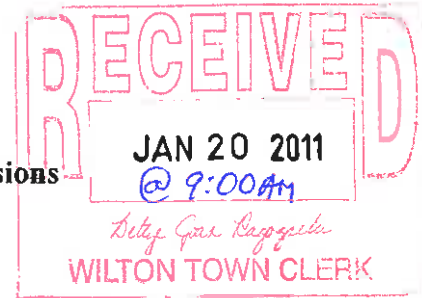


Fire Commission | Police Commission

DANBURY ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT

Minutes of Special Joint Meeting
of Wilton Fire and Wilton Police Commissions
Town Hall Annex, Meeting Room A

December 16, 2010



Present: Police Commissioners Mark Ketley, Matthew C. Mason and Christopher Weldon
Fire Commissioners Casey Healy, Gary Mecozzi and Troy Ellen Dixon

Police Department Personnel

Chief Michael Lombardo; Deputy Chief Robert Crosby; CPT John Lynch

Fire Department Personnel

Chief Paul Milositz; Deputy Chief Mark Amatrudo; CPT Kevin Czarnecki;
LT Michael Michelson; FF David Chaloux; FF Dan Lewis; FF Kevin Plank;
FF Mike Pryor

Guests

Westport Fire Dept: Chief Christopher Ackley; Deputy Chief Jonathan Gottfried
New Canaan Fire Dept: Assistant Chief Jack Hennessey
Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corps: Ron Hitter, President

- A. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ketley at approximately 1804 hours.

Chief Milositz introduced guests and outlined meeting purpose as presentation/discussion of proposed consolidated dispatch plan to implement and site a regional dispatch center at Westport to handle Fire and EMS calls for New Canaan, Westport, Wilton and Ridgefield.

- B. **Consolidated Dispatch:** Deputy Chief Amatrudo presented plan for MidCounty Fire & EMS Dispatch. The Deputy Chief provided background, which included review of Dispatch Committee recommendations (February 25, 2010), approvals in principle by First Selectman of each town to proceed with planning (November 15, 2010), benefits of consolidated dispatch and financial considerations. Additional information included overview of available dispatch options, technology and infrastructure currently available in Westport, current regionalization in the state through established Public Safety Answering Points (7 Regional PSAPs; 9 Multi-Town PSAPs).

Highlighting current process through Wilton Dispatch, the Deputy Chief cited potential for improvements to delivery of effective EMD and pre-arrival instructions, automatic/mutual aid response times, fire scene manpower levels; positive impacts on rescue, safety of public/personnel and fire control; possible ISO rating improvement.

The Deputy Chief detailed cost parameters for proposed plan, including initial investment and funding sources – e.g., \$20K from WVAC (provided annually) and cost savings as a result of reduced staffing requirement at Wilton Dispatch.

- C. **Discussion:** Q&A regarding start-up costs, cost-efficiencies over time, timing of implementation by individual towns, logistics and state-wide regionalization, with questions fielded by Chief Milositz, Deputy Chief Amatrudo, Mr. Hitter, Chief Ackley, Deputy Chief Gottfried and Assistant Chief Jack Hennessey as appropriate.

The Police Commission supports the concept of regionalization, subject to analysis of the economic consequences and impacts of regionalization both to the Town of Wilton and the Wilton Police Department. The Fire Commission offered agreement in principle on merits of proposed plan; recommended additional work on cost parameters and implications.

- D. **Executive Session:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Fire Commission voted unanimously to adjourn its meeting at approximately 2005 hours; and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Police Commission voted unanimously to enter Executive Session for the purpose of addressing potential collective bargaining implications of the proposed consolidated dispatch plan.

The Police Commission came out of Executive Session at 2055 hours having taken no action.

- E. **Adjournment:** On a motion by Commissioner Mason and seconded by Commissioner Weldon, the Police Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2056 hours.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy Ellen Dixon, Secretary
Wilton Fire Commission