Wilton Police Commission



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POLICE COMMISSION MEETING 13 October 2009

CTO

Commissioner Matt Mason called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Mark Ketley, Chris Weldon, Acting Chief Michael Lombardo, Captain Robert Crosby and Claire Furano.

MINUTES

A motion made by Commissioner Ketley and seconded by Commissioner Weldon to approve the Minutes of the September 14, 2009 Regular Meeting passed 3-0, as amended to include that the Tom Fleming case was discussed. A motion was made by Commissioner Mason and seconded by Commissioner Ketley to approve the Minutes of the September 18, 2009 Special Meeting, which passed 3-0.

DISUCSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The Commission reviewed, discussed and accepted the monthly reports. Acting Chief Lombardo noted that motor vehicle stops are down 16% compared to the same time period in 2008. This is attributed to the fact that we are down two officers and the two remaining STP officers are also covering shifts.

Commissioner Mason pointed out that domestic incidents are up to 87 calls through the month of September this year, in comparison to a total of 60 calls for all of 2008. Commissioner Weldon added that looking at the months of September 08 (six incidents) and 09 (seven incidents) indicates the numbers are pretty consistent.

It was also noted that the number of EMS calls is high and is attributed to the senior housing. The number of Motor Vehicle Accidents is also up.

The August/September traffic report was reviewed. Acting Chief Lombardo stated that the speed trailer has been put in various locations around town by the day shift and is returned to the PD by the evening shift. It has been effective and is well received by the public.

The line painting is complete on Route 7 and has greatly reduced the confusion about which lane to use.

Acting Chief Lombardo has spoken to Tom Thurkettle about a crosswalk on School Road, by Cider Mill School. It was suggested that a pedestrian crosswalk sign be installed there, as well. The new crosswalk and pedestrian sign by the Coldwell Banker Office has been well received.

The removal of the barrels and complete opening of the four lane roadway is dependent upon DOT approval. The traffic lights at Sharp Hill, Cannon Road and Olmstead Hill Road must be working before this will occur. Lt. Lynch has been and continues to press for the lights to be set-up and working with the hopes that the road will be completely open by the end of October.

Commissioner Matt Mason said there has been noticeable improvement in the road over the last month. He commended Lt. John Lynch for all the work he has done in seeing this project through.

REPORT OF ACTING CHIEF MICHAEL LOMBARDO

The Chief reported about the past month's activities as follows:

- Email to Chief Lombardo from Lisa Sorrentino Strmecki, thanking Officers Calorossi, Phillipson and Brennan for responding to a call at her home.
- Letter of appreciation from Acting Chief Lombardo to Andrew Krochko, Administrator at Wilton Meadows, for water bottles filled with snacks on September 11th.
- Letter of appreciation from Acting Chief Lombardo to Margaret Smythe (Summer Intern) for cupcakes.
- Email to Dispatcher Nicole Kenny from Chief Lombardo reiterating a phone message of praise he received from Mr. Morris for the manner in which Nicole assisted him.
- Letter from Jodi & Jonathan Speicher to Chief Lombardo, expressing gratitude for the installation of their infant's car seat by Officer David Hartman and also expressing pleasure that this program exists.
- Email from Chief Lombardo to Officer Calorossi, praising him for a job well done.
- Email from Chief Lombardo to Officers Louis Reszoly and Diane Papa for their participation at the Senior Community Day.

- Note of thanks and fruit basket from Mr. and Mrs. Frankiel to the officers for the many times they have responded to their calls.
- Email from Chief Lombardo advising that the Department's Training Records have been audited by P.O.S.T. and are being maintained appropriately. Also, stating that training for our officers exceeds P.O.S.T. requirements.
- Letter from Anne & Stephen Karel thanking Officer Robert Nosal for assistance.
- Letters of congratulations to Chief Lombardo from State Senator Toni Boucher and Dr. Gary Richards.
- Copy of Scott Sear's Deputation Appointment with the Connecticut FBI.

It was stated that the Town would be receiving reimbursement for Scott's salary on a quarterly basis. Chief Lombardo and Captain Crosby are in the process of completing the DEMAS questionnaire in order to start the reimbursement process. The Connecticut FBI has supplied Scott with a car and the Town pays for the fuel. Scott works at the WPD a couple of days a week.

Testing for a new recruit will take place on October 24th, 2009. There are currently 439 applicants. The outside company does the written and agility testing, while the WPD is responsible for the background checks. The WPD is looking to hire a new officer to fill the open patrolman position left following the departure of Chief Kulhawik and the promotions which followed and will follow. Acting Chief Lombardo is looking to hire the new recruit in time for the February training class at the Connecticut State Police facility in Meriden, Connecticut.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of approval of federal asset forfeiture funds for the purchase of ERT Team equipment was tabled until a list of specific equipment is furnished.

The Commission, along with Acting Chief Lombardo and Captain Crosby, discussed the fact that the law firm which represents the Board of Education has filed suit against the Wilton Police Department. The Commission believes this is inappropriate and may present a conflict of interest. The matter has been brought to the First Selectman's attention.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

There were no reports from the Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:55 p.m., the meeting adjourned to the Executive Session. At 8:30 p.m., the Commission came out of Executive Session without any action having been taken by the Commission.

At this time, the Special Meeting reconvened. Commissioner Mason motioned to approve the reorganized Table of Organization as recommended to the Commission by the senior management staff. It was seconded by Commissioner Weldon and passed 3-0.

At 8:45p.m., Commissioner Ketley's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Commissioner Mason and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Furano

Recording Secretary