

Wilton Police Commission



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**POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
5 AUGUST 2019**

**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND APPROVAL AT
A FUTURE MEETING OF THE POLICE COMMISSION**

CTO

Chairman Don Sauvigne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters, Commissioner Matt Mason (by phone), Chief John Lynch, Captain Robert Cipolla, Captain Thomas Conlan and Director of HR, Labor Relations and Administrative Services for the Town of Wilton Sarah Taffel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

MINUTES

Commissioner Sauvigne made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2019 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mason. Motion carried 3-0.

STEP 2 GRIEVANCE CONCERNING DETECTIVE EVA ZIMNOCH

The Step 2 Grievance was tabled and will be conducted on a future date to be determined. No action was taken.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed and discussed.

The Activity Reports for June and July were reviewed. The Commission noted that activities reported are consistent with prior years, but that EMS assists are elevated.

The Commission noted that the number of MV Stops for June and July continue to be lower than those in the same periods in prior years. This is in part due to limited personnel available for patrol.

The Detective Bureau reports for June and July did not present any issues.

The MAC Reports for June and July were reviewed. There were no issues, and the activities of the Department were satisfactory. The Commission recognized that Lieutenant Kluk and Lieutenant Hartmann had achieved their minimum Special Olympics fundraising goal for the Mt. Kilimanjaro climb. Chief Lynch reported that the fixed digital radar equipment is with the vendor for repairs, but that the portable equipment is working well and has been deployed.

The SRO Report for June was reviewed (there was none for July given the school year) and the Commission noted no issues. The summary of activities prepared by the two officers and provided to the school system was positive and helpful.

The Overtime Reports for June and July were reviewed. The Commissioners noted that the overtime hours for the preceding fiscal year had narrowed the gap over prior years by the end of the fiscal year, and that the first month of the current fiscal year had lower overtime hours than in the past.

The Commission reviewed the K9 Report for June (there was none for July) and noted no issues.

REPORT OF CHIEF LYNCH

Chief Lynch reviewed with the Commission the letters of thanks and the donations that had been received. The Commissioners congratulated the Chief and the Department on its receipt of the Connecticut American Legion 2019 Police Department of the Year Award, which recognizes the Department's efforts in the field of children and youth, drug education, community awareness projects and participation in patriotic observances.

Chief Lynch reported that a Citizen's Police Academy course comprised of eight weekly sessions is tentatively scheduled to begin on September 12, 2019. The Commission supported this activity as a good way for the public to become informed as to the functions and operations of the Department.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Building Committee

Commissioner Waters reported that the Building Committee is soliciting the services of engineers and surveyors to complete due diligence of the Town Hall campus. The intention remains to present a proposed plan to the Town Meeting in May.

B. Recruit Update

Chief Lynch reported that the training class for the Fall had been canceled and the next class is in December. The Commission tentatively agreed to schedule interviews to be held at the November 11, 2019 Commission meeting. Potentially the Department could hire three new officers, but given the limitations of Field Training resources following Academy training, any hiring would be limited to no more than two officers unless one or more was a lateral transfer.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Range Road Signage Request

The Commission, acting as the Local Traffic Authority, reviewed the analysis performed by Lieutenant Hartman of a citizen's request for "Slippery When Wet" signs on Range Road west of McFadden Road. The Commission agreed that the recommended signage was appropriate given the frequency of crashes into the guardrail at that location in the recent past. Commissioner Waters made a motion that the Commission adopt the analysis performed by Lieutenant Hartman with respect to signage. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauvigne and carried 3-0.

B. Review of Nick Parisot Trail Proposal

The Commission, acting as the Local Traffic Authority, reviewed the location of a proposed walking trail in North Wilton that will cross or run alongside portions of Town roads. Ultimately this trail may connect to the Norwalk River Valley Trail system that is being constructed. The Commission agreed that the Department should review the proposed road crossing areas for any sightline issues and the possible need for signage and, if conditions warrant it, potentially installing crossing warning lights such as those implemented by the NRVT on Sharp Hill Road.

C. Scribner Hill No Thru Truck Survey

The Commission, acting as the Local Traffic Authority, reviewed the analysis performed by Lieutenant Hartman of a citizen's request that Scribner Hill Road be designated as a "No Thru Trucks" road. The Commission noted that there were no reported crashes on Scribner Hill Road in the prior year, and that the number of trucks counted in a recent survey was 2.5% of the total vehicle traffic on the road. Most of those trucks were believed to be servicing residences in the area, and therefore would not be precluded by a No Thru Truck designation. Therefore, the Commission agreed to take no action on the request and tabled it indefinitely.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Mason reported that a resident on Cobbs Mill Road had expressed their gratitude for the changes to the intersection at Cedar Road that had been implemented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:36 p.m. the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss pending legal matters and personnel matters. The Commission invited Chief Lynch, Captain Conlan, Captain Cipolla and Ms. Taffel to participate in the Executive Session. At 8:30 p.m. the Commission came out of Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Sauvigne seconded by Commissioner Mason and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary