

Wilton Police Commission



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DRAFT
POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
22 MARCH 2011

CTO

Chairman Chris Weldon called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters and Commissioner Matt Mason (arrived 6:55 p.m.), Chief Michael Lombardo, Deputy Chief Robert Crosby, Sergeant Bill Tanner, Tom Evans (The Wilton Villager) and Claire Furano

MINUTES

Approval of the minutes was taken up later in the meeting.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The Commission reviewed, discussed and accepted the monthly reports.

Chief Lombardo noted that the number of MV Stops in February increased over the month of January and is significantly lower than last February. This can be attributed to lack of manpower due to significant injuries and leaves. The number of officers on the road affects the ability to carry out enforcement and deliver services to the community. This along with attempting to keep overtime costs in check greatly influences the stats.

Chairman Weldon noted that the Detective Bureau Report remains consistent month over month and the number of EMS calls has increased over the previous month. Chief Lombardo added that as the first responder, the PD responds to all EMS calls, both minor and serious.

The number of Domestic Violence calls decreased slightly in February from the previous month and is up over February 2010. Chairman Weldon stated that a nationwide study shows a direct relationship to domestic violence incidents and sporting events results. Chief Lombardo added the poor economy is also a factor. Chairman Weldon suggested domestic violence calls be tracked along with the time of day to determine when the majority of incidents occur.

The MAC Report was reviewed and discussed. Chairman Weldon commented that Lt. Brennan does a spectacular job on the report and cannot imagine working without it.

The intersection at Olmstead Hill and Rt. 7 was discussed at great length. Chief Lombardo will again discuss this intersection with Captain Lynch to address with State DOT, the possibility of installing a second light allowing traffic to turn right.

REPORT OF CHIEF LOMBARDO

Letters of thanks and jobs well done were reviewed. Bill Brennan forwarded a resident's letter of thanks and praise to Chief Lombardo. Sgt. Dempsey commended officers Nosal, Zimnoch, Razzaia and Tornello for their efforts during a storm that caused flooding conditions in Wilton.

Chairman Weldon added that Officer Anna Tornello is being honored for first in her class at the Police Academy on March 30th, at a Police Commissioners Awards Dinner in Wallingford.

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission requested information on two individuals involved in the rescue of a drowning victim that took place in October 2010, from the Norwalk River.

Colonel Danny Stebbins sent a letter introducing himself as the newly appointed Deputy Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety and the Commanding Officer of the State Police.

OLD BUSINESS

A letter from Servco requesting Chief Lombardo's agreement that the State consider a traffic control signal at the intersection of Route 7 and Catalpa Road was reviewed. Chief Lombardo suggested that he would invite the State DOT to examine the site, along with Lt. Stephen Brennan and himself.

The request for the partial opening of Avalon Springs II, Phase I was reviewed and discussed. The police will assist with vehicles heading south on Route 7 and making the left turn into the location until the lane has been widened. Avalon has agreed to pay for the officers, vehicle usage and the 5% administrative fees. The local traffic authority must concur with the improvements before the CO is issued. Commissioner David Waters made a motion to accept the opening of Avalon Springs II-Phase I, as submitted on the plans reviewed at the Police Commission Meeting on 3/22/2011. The motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Weldon. It passed 2-0.

NEW BUSINESS

It was agreed that Chief Lombardo would nominate Captain John Lynch for the open seat at the FBI NAA. The program is geared towards grooming an individual to become Chief of Police. There are benefits to the Town as well as the participant. The program includes a public information course.

Changes to SOP 3-9 Firearms Qualifications were reviewed and discussed. Commissioner David Waters made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Matt Mason, to accept and approve Chief Lombardo's recommendations to the changes in SOP 3-9 on Firearms Qualifications. It passed 3-0.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Matt Mason reported that the traffic back-up has improved at the intersection of Route 7 and Olmstead, with the light sequence. Approaching the State for a lane dedicated to right turns only was discussed.

MINUTES

Chairman Chris Weldon made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 15, 2011 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Matt Mason and passed 2-0-1 with Commissioner David Waters abstaining.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:06 p.m., the meeting adjourned to the Executive Session to interview candidates for the vacant patrol position. At 9:33 p.m., the Commission reconvened to open session.

Commissioner Matt Mason made a motion, seconded by Commissioner David Waters to accept the Chief's recommendation to make a conditional offer of employment to Edward Dolenk. It passed 3-0.

At 9:36 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Furano
Recording Secretary