

Wilton Police Commission



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**POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
13 December 2010**

CTO

Commissioner Matt Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Mark Ketley and Chris Weldon, Chief Michael Lombardo, Deputy Chief Robert Crosby, and Captain John Lynch. Former Wilton Police Officer Chris Lund joined the meeting after the executive session at 8:16 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Mason made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Weldon, to add to the agenda the election of officers, which passed 3-0. Commissioner Mason nominated Commissioner Ketley to be the Chairman of the Police Commission and seconded by Commissioner Weldon, which passed 2-0 with one abstention (Commissioner Ketley). Commissioner Weldon nominated Commissioner Mason to be Vice-Chairman of the Police Commission, which passed 3-0. Commissioners Mason and Weldon observed that Commissioner Ketley had served the Department with distinction for almost 10 years and he deserved the recognition and honor of serving as Chairman. Commissioner Ketley goes off the Commission in March 2011 and will serve as Chairman until the February 2011 Commission meeting.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Chairman Commissioner Ketley and seconded by Commissioner Weldon to approve the Minutes of the November 8, 2010 Regular Meeting, which passed 3-0.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The Commission reviewed, discussed and accepted the monthly reports.

Commissioner Mason noted that domestic violence continues to rise when compared to the same time period last year and he also noted a significant jump in the number of

traffic stops when compared to last month. The Chief commented that continued rise in domestic violence seems to be tied to the long lasting down turn in the economy. As to the increase in traffic stops, the Chief advised that November was the first time, in a long, time, that he had enough officer working that he could put out the Department normal roaming patrol to conduct traffic enforcement. The Chief also advised that due to be understaffed for most of the year, the Department has been forced to not fill the roaming patrol and thus not able to conduct traffic enforcement. He also noted that his overtime is up significant over last year and will probably continue to rise due to the lack of staffing and police officers out on disability or extended illnesses.

Commissioner Weldon noted one very concerning trend in the increase in motor vehicles accidents with injuries over last year. The Chief, Assistant Chief and Captain Lynch all commented on how not being able to fill all patrols has caused a decrease in visibility and thus what appears to be increase in the roadway being more dangerous for the traveling public.

The December MAC Report was reviewed and discussed. The MAC report continues to be extremely informative in addressing where the traffic concerns exist. Chairman Commissioner Ketley commented on the number of traffic complaints. The Chief also noted that the traffic complaints are rising and the Department is trying to respond to all of them as quickly as they can with the limited number officer they have to be put out on these assignments.

REPORT OF CHIEF MICHAEL LOMBARDO

Letters of thanks and jobs well done were reviewed. The Chief commented on the letter of thanks received by the Department for the handling of the potential suicidal call. Also, the Chief commented on the kind gestures of Jessica Lind who delivered baked goods to the Department as a thank you for how the Department responded to the incident involving the loss of her father. Lastly, the Chief commented on the many accolades received by the Department and Officer Calorossi for Officer Calorossi unselfish act of providing lifesaving efforts to a stranded motorist while he was off duty up in the New Haven area.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Mason inquired about why a "No Turn On Red" sign was placed on Olmstead Road where it intersects with Route 7. Commissioner Mason also noted the sign now causes a back-up of traffic on Olmstead Road even though it appears that Route 7 is clear to turn right. Captain Lynch explained the sign was placed there by the State because of the sight-line looking north Route 7. The Commissioners asked Captain

Lynch to look into whether anything could be done to improve the sight-line and have the State remove the sign. Captain Lynch said he would look in to it and report back to the Commission at its next meeting.

There was also discussion about the continued construction on Route 7 at the point where Route 7 intersects with Route 33. Captain Lynch advised that the construction is almost complete on Route 7 in that area and the State has indicated that it will be removing the barriers shortly. The Commissioners also asked about the time-line for completion of work on the Route 33 bridge over the train tracks. Captain Lynch advised that due to structural work needed to be done in association with the Route 7 work that the work on the bridge was being done in phases and was going to take several months. However, Captain Lynch indicated he would check with the State to see if he could get a more concrete time-line and may be even post it on the Department's website.

The Commission discussed the hiring of an officer to fill one of the two open positions on the Police force. The Chief advised that the Department had five candidates for whom background checks have been completed. The Commissioners requested that the screening be completed and interviews be scheduled for January. The Commission determined to continue discussion of this issue as it relates to budgetary issues in executive session.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

There were no reports from the Commissioners.

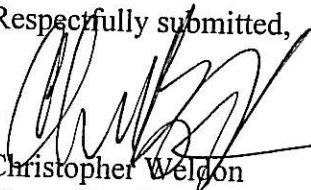
EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:35 p.m. the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss budget strategy issues with the FY '12 budget and general personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:16 p.m., the Commission came out of Executive Session and, at 8:17 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Weldon, seconded by Chairman Commissioner Ketley and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Weldon
Recording Commissioner