

Wilton Police Commission



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**POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
13 AUGUST 2020**

**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 2:25 p.m. In attendance electronically were Commissioner David Waters, Chief John Lynch, Captain Thomas Conlan and Captain Robert Cipolla.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Captain Conlan reported that no public comment had been received.

**DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

Commissioner Waters made a motion to offer Elizabeth Myles and Navin Nair offers of employment as police officers of the Department, subject to the usual conditions and background follow up research, with a commencement date of employment determined at the discretion of the Chief upon the satisfactory completion of such conditions and the earliest available time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauvigne. Motion carried 2-0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Sauvigne made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2020 special meeting and the July 13, 2020 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 2-0.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed and discussed.

The Activity Report for July was reviewed. The Commissioners noted that activities reported are consistent with prior years, and noted that burglaries are elevated – Chief Lynch commented that these are almost exclusively car break-ins and that the Department keeps reminding people to lock their cars to prevent this.

The Commissioners noted the number of MV Stops for July and commented that the number of stops is remaining consistent.

The Detective Bureau report for July did not present any issues. The Commissioners noted that pistol permits are up, which is consistent with what other Connecticut municipalities are experiencing.

The MAC Report for July was reviewed, and there were no issues.

The SRO Report for July was reviewed and the Commissioners noted no issues. The Commissioners noted that the SROs were able to fill in with other Department needs over the summer. Chief Lynch reported that Captain Cipolla is working with the schools on the reentry process in light of COVID. The Department expects that more school children will be driven to school rather than taking the bus so there may be increased traffic from drop-offs, but this may be reduced by the hybrid school attendance.

The Overtime Report for July was reviewed. The Commissioners noted that most of the overtime hours were due to shift coverage as a result of understaffing.

There was no K-9 Report for July.

REPORT OF CHIEF LYNCH

Chief Lynch reviewed with the Commission the letters of thanks and the donations that had been received, and expressed the thanks of the Department for the tremendous support from the community.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Building Committee

Commissioner Waters reported that there has been no activity.

B. COVID Update

Chief Lynch reported that the EOC continues to meet in its groups three times a week. The Department is working with the Board of Education on school reopenings.

C. Hiring New Recruits

This matter was addressed by the Commission at the beginning of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Project - State Project 0173-0507

CTDOT is proposing to upgrade the flashing pedestrian crossing signal on Sharp Hill Road (Route 106) at the Norwalk River Valley Trail, and CTDOT is seeking a waiver of a public information session or public hearing with respect to the installation of these improvements. The Commission agreed that the waiver was appropriate and Chief Lynch will deliver the waiver letter to First Selectwoman Vanderslice for signature.

B. Storm Response

Chief Lynch reported that he was impressed by the response of the Department to Tropical Storm Isaias, and the great team and communications that existed between the Department and the First Selectwoman, the Fire Chief, Mr. Burney and Social Services, among others. The Commissioners took particular note of the commendations received from officers of the Department for the work of the Chief and managing personnel in stepping up to fill in as needed.

Chief Lynch reported that the actions, or inactions, of Eversource were “appalling.” They underestimated the storm, and we got what was close to the worst case, then they disappeared. The town needed to force Eversource, on Day 3, to deal with transmission wires near trees so that the trees blocking roads could be cleared. By contrast, Wilton DPW had cleared everything that they could without Eversource involvement within 48 hours after the storm.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

There were no comments from Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:50 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Sauvigne seconded by Commissioner Waters and passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary