

Wilton Police Commission



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**POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
14 SEPTEMBER 2015**

CTO

Chairman Chris Weldon called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters, Commissioner Donald Sauvigne, Interim Chief Robert Crosby, Captain John Lynch and Tom Peters (Wilton Villager).

MINUTES

Commissioner Waters made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauvigne. Motion carried 3-0.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed and discussed. The Commissioners were pleased with the increased number of MV Stops in August, which represented a good trend and a satisfactory number of stops.

The Activity Report for August was reviewed. The Commission noted that the number of reported larcenies was reduced to historic levels. The number of MVAs was low, but the number of accidents with injuries was higher than usual. The increased number of vehicle stops is important to reducing the number of accidents, since an increased police visibility reduces poor driving habits. Distracted driving, however, continues to be of significant concern.

The MAC Report for August was reviewed. There were no reporting concerns. Interim Chief Crosby reported that Officer Sisenstein has been designated as the new MAC officer.

The SRO Report for August was reviewed. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the report. Interim Chief Crosby noted that the Department is fortunate that the Wilton

school system allows the Department to participate in various activities from safety drills to education, and that some municipalities are reluctant to allow such participation.

The Overtime Report for August was reviewed. Interim Chief Crosby reported that there is still a greater number of overtime hours in the current fiscal year than there had been in the prior year, but that the Department had reduced the numbers from the prior month. Because of open positions in Dispatch, officers are filling these positions until they are filled and this is contributing to the overtime demand.

The Accreditation Report for August was reviewed. Interim Chief Crosby reported that Lieutenant Brennan will continue to oversee the accreditation activities. A new application has been adopted by the accrediting agency, so the Department will be using that form. The Commissioners suggested that target completion dates for interim goals should be created in order to measure whether the Department is keeping to the expected timeline to complete the accreditation process.

REPORT OF INTERIM CHIEF CROSBY

A report on the activities of the K9 was reviewed and discussed. The Commission noted that the presence of the K9 at Merwin Meadows served a dual purpose of community policing and ensuring that inappropriate activities do not occur at that location.

Letters of thanks and jobs well done and other miscellaneous matters were reviewed. Interim Chief Crosby pointed out that despite the attitude toward the police elsewhere it is gratifying to the Department that they have received so many appreciative letters for the work performed by the officers.

Letters:

- Letter from Mary Jane Johnston to Interim Chief Crosby thanking Officer Canepari and Sgt. Cipolla for their assistance
- Letter from Elizabeth Brunner thanking Officer Brodzinski for his assistance

Donations to the Wilton Police Fund:

- None

Donations (Other):

- None

Miscellaneous:

- Driver training grades from POST for Officer Jonathan Patry

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on Crosswalk Warning Beacons at the Norwalk River Valley Trail Crossing on Sharp Hill Road

Commissioner Weldon noted that the Commission had publicized in the local media its intent to discuss flashing beacon lights at the Norwalk River Valley Trail crossings, and that no written comment was received and no one was present to provide oral comments. A motion was made by Commissioner Weldon to approve the installation of warning flashers at the intersection of the Trail at Sharp Hill Road on the recommendation of Interim Chief Crosby. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0. The Commission noted that the NRVt has agreed to pick up the cost of the beacons.

B. Update on Status of Body Cameras

Interim Chief Crosby reported that he expects to have a demonstration of the Taser version of body camera at the next Commission meeting. The Panasonic version is expected to be available for demonstration in the next few weeks. The Commissioners expressed concern that a decision must be made next month in order to ensure that the grant funds are timely used by December 31, 2015, and Interim Chief Crosby agreed to instruct the manufacturers that they must provide timely information or they will not be considered.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Miller-Driscoll Traffic Flow

The Commission, acting as the Traffic Authority, discussed the contemplated changes to the internal traffic flow at the Miller-Driscoll School. Because all of the changes are within the property and do not affect the abutting streets, the Commission took no action on this matter.

B. Facebook Page

Interim Chief Crosby reported that the Wilton Police Department Facebook page is ready to be released. Initially it will be read-only but will direct members of the public to the Department web page if they wish to provide a tip or register a complaint. The Commissioners also discussed adding information on the activities of the Police Explorers, how to contribute to the Police Fund and other items of interest. The Department will activate the Facebook page shortly.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

There were no reports of the Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:50 p.m., the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. At 9:02 p.m., the Commission came out of Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session.

NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

C. Consideration of Designation of the Executive Officer by the Department

Commissioner Weldon made a motion to accept Interim Chief Crosby's recommendation to designate Captain John Lynch as the Executive Officer of the Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

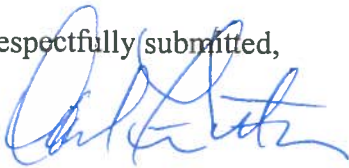
D. Consideration and Acceptance of Recommendation to Remove Officer Elise Smith from New-Hire Probationary Status

Interim Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Officer Elise Smith will have completed the minimum probationary period as a new-hire officer of the Department on September 16, 2015, and recommended that the Commission remove her from new-hire probationary status on said date provided no intervening incident occurs that would cause a reconsideration by the Chief of this recommendation. Commissioner Weldon made a motion to remove Officer Smith from new-hire probationary status effective September 16, 2015, subject to the aforesaid condition. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauvigne. Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:04 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Waters seconded by Commissioner Weldon and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary