

Wilton Police Commission



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**POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING  
22 DECEMBER 2015**

**CTO**

Chairman Chris Weldon called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters, Commissioner Donald Sauvigne, Chief Robert Crosby, Captain John Lynch, Captain Thomas Conlan, Lieutenant Stephen Brennan, Tom Peters (Wilton Villager) and Matt Mason.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Sauvigne made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015 regular meeting and the December 14, 2015 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

**DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

Monthly reports were reviewed and discussed. The Commissioners were extremely pleased with the number of MV Stops in the prior month, which was significantly higher than that for the same period in prior years. Chief Crosby noted that a SEU grant assisted in making it possible to put more officers on the road for this activity.

The Activity Report for November was reviewed. The Commission had no comments on the report.

The MAC Report for November was reviewed. The Commission noted that a traffic speed study was performed at Dudley Road as a result of a citizen's complaint and the study results indicated excessive vehicle speed. Chief Crosby stated that the Department would implement selective enforcement and the speed trailer to reduce speeding in this area. The Commission noted the surprisingly high traffic count in another study at Old Belden Hill. Chief Crosby noted that Officer Anna Tornello had received an award from AAA for her work to promote safety. Chief Crosby reported that Officer Tornello and Officer Smith assisted at a Norwalk sobriety checkpoint. Officer Smith participated in a

Shop with a Cop event with children in need. The recent Stuff-a-Cruiser event for Toys for Tots was a significant success.

The SRO Report for November was reviewed. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the report. Chief Crosby reported that the SROs were maintaining significant time and attention to these duties. The timing and mechanics of further K9 patrols at the schools are being discussed with the school system.

The Overtime Report for November was reviewed. The Commission continued to express concern with the overtime hours, including those during this reporting period. Chief Crosby noted that 85 hours of overtime will be covered by the SEU grant, but the number of overtime hours is still greater than last year in the same reporting period. He reported that two officers will be out of the FTO process so more officers will be available on the road in the near future, that a lateral hire will be on the road soon, and that the process of hiring for dispatch is underway, all of which should positively affect the number of overtime hours.

The K9 Report for November was reviewed. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the amount of community policing activity, and noted that two out of six narcotics searches resulted in positive results.

The Accreditation Report for November was reviewed. Lieutenant Brennan reported that he had met with State Accreditation Manager Tanner to review the requirements for Tier I accreditation. The Department must address approximately 127 standards and 306 proofs. The number of Department personnel who will be working on the accreditation is being increased to include not only Lieutenant Brennan but also the Training Officer and the Administrative Sergeant. This will result in less time demand on any one officer and better time management when these individuals are needed for other Department duties. They are building a database that will cross reference standards where the same proofs are necessary, thereby reducing duplication and streamlining the process. The Department is being educated on what is necessary for a proper proof, which has the dual benefit of ensuring accuracy of reports and providing a usable proof. In equivalent size and case volume departments, typically an accreditation manager spends approximately 75% of their time on the accreditation program and some departments hire part time personnel to maintain it; Lieutenant Brennan reported that he has been spending approximately 20 hours per week on average, and that he expects that it will continue to require about the same 20 hours per week, spread among the personnel assigned to the program, to implement and then maintain it.

### **REPORT OF CHIEF CROSBY**

Letters of thanks and jobs well done and other miscellaneous matters were reviewed.

Letters:

- Email sent to Sergeant Cocco from Ryan Dadasovich praising the professionalism of Officer Canepari during a stop, along with Chief Crosby's response
- Thank you letter to Chestnut Electric from Chief Crosby for cookies
- Letter from Westport Lieutenant Paulsson thanking Chief Crosby for assistance received from Wilton Sergeant Gregg Phillipson, Detective Eva Zimnoch, along with Officers Joe Calorossi, Steve Rangel and Scott Spezzano
- Thank you letters from Chief Crosby to officers' families for Veteran's Day meal that was prepared by: Lydia Patry, Candice Patenaude, Jamie Calorossi, Merrienne Cipolla, Mikaela Sisenstein and Elisabeth Pavlofsky

Donations to the Wilton Police Fund:

- None

Donations (Other):

- None

Miscellaneous:

- Copies of grades from POST for Recruit Melissa Mason

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Update on Status of Body Cameras

Chief Crosby reported that the Department has received body cameras, and that the system should be up and running in about two to three months.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Vote on Commission Chairman to Replace Departing Chairman Chris Weldon

The Commission tabled discussion and action on this item until the next meeting when Chairman Weldon's replacement has been seated.

B. Discussion and/or Approval Regarding 241 Danbury Road

The Commission tabled discussion and possible action on this matter until a future meeting.

C. Consideration and Acceptance of Recommendation to Remove Sergeant Arnault Baker from Probationary Status

Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Sergeant Arnault Baker has completed the minimum probationary period as a sergeant of the Department, and recommended that

the Commission remove him from probationary status. Commissioner Weldon made a motion to remove Sergeant Baker from probationary status effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

D. Consideration and Acceptance of Recommendation to Remove Sergeant Anthony Cocco from Probationary Status

Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Sergeant Anthony Cocco has completed the minimum probationary period as a sergeant of the Department, and recommended that the Commission remove him from probationary status. Commissioner Sauvigne made a motion to remove Sergeant Cocco from probationary status effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

E. Consideration and Acceptance of Recommendation to Remove Officers Brandon Harris and Stephen Zawacki from New-Hire Probationary Status

Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Officer Brandon Harris and Officer Stephen Zawacki have each completed the minimum probationary period as a new-hire officer of the Department, and recommended that the Commission remove each of them from new-hire probationary status. Commissioner Waters made a motion to remove Officer Harris and Officer Zawacki from new-hire probationary status effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weldon. Motion carried 3-0.

F. Approval of 2016 Police Commission Meeting Calendar

Commissioner Weldon made a motion to approve January 11, 2016 as a Regular Meeting of the Police Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0. Action on the remainder of the 2016 Police Commission Meeting Calendar was tabled until the next meeting, when Commissioner Weldon's replacement has been seated.

### **REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioners Waters and Sauvigne noted that this is the last Commission meeting chaired by outgoing Commissioner Weldon, and expressed their thanks and gratitude for his guidance and service to the Department and the Town of Wilton over the prior ten years.

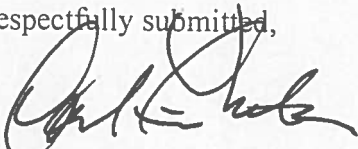
### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:10 p.m., the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Commission invited Matt Mason, a prior commissioner and soon-to-be commissioner to replace Commissioner Weldon, to participate in the Executive Session. At 8:03 p.m., the Commission came out of Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Waters seconded by Commissioner Weldon and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David F. Waters", written over the typed name.

David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary