

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING: September 8, 2010
East Windsor Town Hall – Meeting Room

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Sinsigallo. Commissioners Sherman, Nelson and Stremper were present as well as Chief of Police Edward DeMarco and Deputy Chief Roger Hart. Commissioner Sauerhoefer informed the commission that he would arrive late (7:15). Also in attendance were Selectman John Burnham and Board of Finance member Kathy Pippin.

Prior to addressing tonight's agenda, Commissioner Nelson requested a moment of silence for State Trooper Kenneth Hall who was killed in a tragic accident on Interstate 91 last week.

2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

MOTION made by Commissioner Sherman to add agenda item "CIP – new police cruisers" under *7. New Business*. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nelson.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTED IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the August 11, 2010 regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members. **MOTION** made by Commissioner Nelson to accept the regular meeting minutes of 8/11/10, as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sherman. No further discussion.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTED IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

4. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

A) Police Department – Monthly Billing: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Nelson to accept the monthly billing, including Animal Control, as of 9/2/10 with a total amount of \$ 7,404.94. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sherman. No discussion.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Nelson to accept the monthly financial statement, as presented 9/2/10. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sherman. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper.

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: MOTION made by Commissioner Nelson to approve the monthly billing dated 8/30/10 in the amount of \$ 141.34. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sherman. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: MOTION made by Commissioner Nelson to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 8/30/10, as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sherman. No discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

Chief DeMarco stated that the traffic light in front of East Windsor Middle School has been removed.

Chief DeMarco also informed the commission that the speeding signs for Sullivan Farm Rd. are not completed and he will speak to the Director of Public Works soon.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A) CIP – new police cruisers:

Deputy Chief Hart stated that the department is currently operating under last year's budget and that he has had a conversation with the First Selectman informing her of the dire need of new police cars. First Selectman Menard responded to the Deputy Chief by suggesting the Police Department put in a request for the appropriate funds needed. Deputy Chief Hart requested that the Police Commission give authority to the Police Department to draft a letter to CIP requesting the capital improvements that were approved before the board for those cars.

MOTION made by Commissioner Nelson to authorize Chief DeMarco and Deputy Chief Hart to proceed on the proper channels of requesting the capital improvement funds for three cruisers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Stremper. No further discussion.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

A) Letter regarding Exit Interview (Officer Fahey) – Chairman Sinsigallo handed letter to Chief DeMarco.

B) Memo to the Treasurer requesting the \$0.76 transfer (from 8/11/10 meeting).

- C) Letter from “The CT Electric Railway Assoc.” regarding railroad crossings. Chief DeMarco stated that he will respond to the association and will make a suggestion to add “In case of an emergency, Dial 911”.

9. MONTHLY REPORTS:

- A) Chief of Police – Provide information to the commissioners

Chief DeMarco commented that the information contains HIPPA and legal matters that can not be discussed in open forum, therefore will be discussed later.

Chief DeMarco added that the department will be putting benches in the locker room soon.

Chief DeMarco stated that the department is working to secure the parking lot area (due to numerous incidences that have occurred over time) with fencing and/or security. Chief DeMarco reminded the commission of the letter that had been submitted to the commission regarding the condition of the parking lot and the detailed attached study/photos of it. Chief DeMarco stated that he has met with the First Selectman and Director of Public Works and will be getting quotes on fencing.

- B) Commission Members:

Commissioner Nelson commented regarding his Ride-Along from 9/4/10. He recommends that more people do this to learn more about the conditions officers have to face. Commissioner Nelson commended the officers on their professionalism and stated how well they handle themselves out in the field. He concluded by stating that he is grateful of the training and the men we currently have in the department.

Chairman Sinsigallo added that the “Citizen’s Academy” in the past was a great experience and that it is unfortunate that it is no longer available (due to funds). She stated that it was a great eye-opening experience and that the average citizen doesn’t realize the burden our officer’s have on their shoulders or know what the officers have to do.

Commissioner Stremper updated the commission regarding the last Pension Meeting. He stated that, overall, the town is in decent shape with regards to the pension. Although ROI is not great, it is in pretty good shape. Selectman Burnham agreed.

10. PUBLIC INPUT – Comments and Discussion (5 minutes maximum time per subject)

Kathy Pippin (37 Woolam Rd, East Windsor) commented on the dirt bike activity and expressed her concern about the safety of passing bicyclists when these riders are coming from all directions and don’t seem concerned. Ms. Pippin commented that they are at the railroad tracks and around the areas of: Apothecaries Hall/Omelia/Chamberlain/Middle/Thrall Roads. Deputy Chief Hart responded by stating that the department will need to address each occurrence individually and recommended that Ms. Pippin call the department early and often to help address the issues. Chief DeMarco reiterated to call as often it occurs and that the department is there for the citizens.

John Burnham (178 Scantic Rd, East Windsor) - Liaison to the BOS – apologized for not attending recent meetings due to conflicting meeting schedules. Mr. Burnham stated that he does update the BOS and generally reports “business as usual”. Mr. Burnham also added that he would like to do a ride-along at some point as well.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A) Candidate Interview

MOTION made by Commissioner Sherman to go into Executive Session (7:19pm) to include the Chief and Deputy Chief. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sauerhoefer.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Sauerhoefer/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session ended at 7:43pm.

MOTION made by Commissioner Sauerhoefer to offer conditional employment to Scott Roberts pending completion of the required procedures. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nelson. No further discussion.

VOTE IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Sauerhoefer/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Grievance 10-01

Grievance was not heard, as it had been withdrawn.

D) Legal Update

Executive Session for Legal Update began at 7:45pm and closed at 8:17pm.

No action taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Nelson made a **MOTION** to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:19pm. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sauerhoefer.

VOTED IN FAVOR: Nelson/Sherman/Sauerhoefer/Stremper

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pellegrini

EWPC Recording Secretary