

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: February 12, 2020

East Windsor Police Department
25 School Street, East Windsor, CT 06088

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman Leach. Commissioners Long and Safford were present. Also present were Chief Edward DeMarco Jr. and Deputy Chief Roger Hart. Present in the audience were Selectman Charles Nordell and Ms. Nancy Masters.

2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the January 8, 2020, regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members.

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to accept the regular meeting minutes of 01/08/2020.

SECONDED by Commissioner Safford

EXCUSED: Commissioner Filipone/Burns

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

4. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

A) Police Department – Monthly Billing: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Safford to approve the monthly billing, in the amount of \$20,172.72, to include \$107.01 for the ACO, for a total amount of \$20,279.73.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Leach stated there was a lot of money paid in education.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Long to approve the monthly financial statements.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Leach wanted clarification that the ACO salary is now in a different line in the town budget. Deputy Chief Hart stated that is correct.

SECONDED by Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Long to approve the monthly billing as of 01/08/2020 in the total amount of \$125.00

SECONDED by Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Safford to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 01/31/2020 as submitted.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

Ms. Nancy Masters from the East Windsor Historical Society would like help getting signs put up for the Historical Society that say, “Historical Society Museum, Open Saturdays 9 – 12”. She would like one of the common brown signs. Deputy Chief Hart explained she would need State approval to put a sign within a setback. A discussion ensued. Chief DeMarco said they will write a letter to the State DOT with several options listed for the signs and will give a copy to Ms. Masters.

MOTION made by Commissioner Safford to authorize Chief DeMarco to work with the DOT to establish signs in East Windsor directing to the East Windsor Historical Society.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman Leach stated the same article regarding crime statistics was posted on social media again. Chief DeMarco said that the crime statistics do not affect property values and that a lot of the community is starting to understand the statistics better, but there's still a lack of understanding the data. Deputy Chief Hart handed out an informational sheet showing more detail on the statistical data. He went on to explain how statistics can be manipulated and you cannot fully understand them without knowing all the different variables. He's creating graphics and a video to try to explain the data and will be releasing it on either the East Windsor Police webpage or social media page. Chief DeMarco has reached out to Walmart twice to speak with management and they have not responded. He has also contacted the State's Attorney regarding the policies relating to larcenies that occur in East Windsor. He would like to set a pre-set amount and anything under that the person would get a trespass notice instead of an arrest; they will work on the details this month and come up with a policy solution. A discussion ensued.

Chairman Leach stated he saw on the same social media post, that the owner of Dari Delite mentioned she doesn't see the East Windsor Police in the area. Deputy Chief Hart added she has called in the past saying when she calls for accidents, the calls are switched to South Windsor. He stated this happens when the accidents occur in the Town of South Windsor, so South Windsor Police will need to respond. The store is on the town line and which town responds is determined by where the incidents occur. Chief DeMarco added the officers are in the area, but often turn back towards East Windsor prior to reaching her store.

9. MONTHLY REPORTS:

None.

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

Selectman Charles Nordell commended the Chief and Deputy Chief for the job they did on the live budget presentation. He went on to say the paperwork was also very detailed and comprehensive. Deputy Chief Hart stated they try to be thorough and explain everything line by line. Selectman Nordell added he would like to see Revenue information added to the details in the future. Chief DeMarco said they could do that as the data is already tracked and sent to the Treasurer on a monthly basis.

Selectman Muska could not attend the meeting due to a prior work commitment; so she submitted written comments which are as follows: "Please pass on my thanks and compliments to the Commission, Chief DeMarco, Deputy Chief Hart, Sergeant Leab and Detective Sergeant Carl on the thorough and accurate Budget Presentation that was presented to the BOS on Monday evening. I really appreciate the time and effort spent and most importantly appreciate the explanations and data provided for each request. This is most certainly something that each department should be providing to the board, and I thank you for doing so."

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION made by Commissioner Safford to enter into Executive Session at 7:45 pm to include Chief DeMarco and Deputy Chief Hart for discussion on legal issues.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to end Executive Session at 8:11 pm

SECONDED by Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm.

SECONDED by Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Long/Safford

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tweedlie - EWPC Recording Secretary