

EAST WINDSOR POLICE COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING: April 14, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Held Via ZOOM

Meeting ID: 935-3479-3548

URL: <https://zoom.us/j/93534793548>

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Leach. Commissioners Filipone, Long, and Mancuso were present. Also present were Chief Edward DeMarco Jr. and Administrative Lieutenant Matt Carl. Present in the audience were Ms. Noreen Farmer, Selectman Sarah Muska, Selectman Charles Nordell, Detective Scott Roberts, and Sergeant Julia Knowles.

2. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS:

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to add item #4E, Budget and Expenditures Financial Statement from 3/11/2021.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes from the March 10, 2021, regular meeting were reviewed by all commission members.

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to accept the regular meeting minutes of 03/10/2021.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Mancuso

EXCUSED: Commissioner Safford

VOTED IN FAVOR: Chairman Leach, Commissioners Filipone/Long

ALL THOSE VOTING, VOTE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

4. BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES:

A) Police Department – Monthly Billing: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly billing, as of April 14, 2021, in the amount of \$81,270.50, as submitted.

DISCUSSION: Chairman Leach stated two cruisers were purchased. Commissioner Long asked what model we purchased. Chief DeMarco said we got the Ford SUV's as they are less expensive and work for the department. The body style has changed so they need to equip them. Commission Filipone stated we did get some Chevy's in the interim and asked if they

are holding up. Chief DeMarco stated yes, we did get Chevy's and there were some issues in the beginning with brakes, but he has not heard any complaints since. Commissioner Filipone asked what the Transfer Enterprise charge was for. Chief DeMarco stated it was for the office off of the police lobby for the mental health team.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

B) Police Department – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Long to approve the monthly financial statements, as of April 7, 2021, with a balance of \$937,111.88, as submitted.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Long asked about the transfer from the month before. Chief DeMarco said that was the one they talked about. Commissioner Long said the overtime is hitting a wall. Chief DeMarco stated we will move money around and they will manage. Chairman Leach asked how many officers we are down. Chief DeMarco said after the retirement yesterday they have one official vacancy.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

C) Police Commission – Monthly Billing: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to approve the monthly billing in the total amount of \$125.00

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

D) Police Commission – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Filipone to accept the police commission monthly financial statement dated 03/31/2021 as submitted with a balance of \$725.00

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

E) Police Department – Financial Statement: **MOTION** made by Commissioner Long to approve the monthly financial statements, dated March 11, 2021, with a balance of \$1,309.47.00, as submitted.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

6. TRAFFIC AUTHORITY:

Chairman Leach stated there was a request from the owner of Skylark Airport for signage on Wells Road for “low flying aircraft”. They are requesting two signs northbound on Wells Road and two signs southbound on Wells Road to warn drivers of low flying aircraft. Commissioner Long asked if there have been any issues. Chairman Leach said not that he’s aware of but knows there is low flying aircraft in the area. Chief DeMarco stated there have been accidents there, but not related to low flying aircraft. Although, when dealing with risk management when you can predict it, you can prevent it. Deputy Chief Hart can research the area and give a suggestion on signs. Chairman Leach said as the LTA they should check regulations on signage for low flying aircraft and make a decision at the next meeting.

Chief DeMarco received a request today that he emailed to Chairman Leach. The LTA request is for metro part north which is Rt. 5 straddling the Enfield/East Windsor line which has a traffic impact on us because the facility is growing. Chairman Leach will forward the information to the Commissioners and can send any concerns to the Chief as he’ll be looking at it next week.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

8. COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

9. MONTHLY REPORTS:

Chairman Leach congratulated everyone on the Tier 1 accreditation as it’s a huge step for us; he looks forward to Tier 2 accreditation. He also gave a shout out to everyone involved in the budget presentation to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. It gave a clear picture of what the department is trying to do and where we are trying to go. Commission Long asked if we are going to do a press release on the Tier 1 accreditation. Chief DeMarco stated we will put something out and have released on Facebook. Commissioner Filipone asked if we would get grant money out of this. Chief Demarco said we do not but may get other opportunities we can take advantage of.

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

Ms. Noreen Farmer of 247 S. Water Street stated people don’t stop at the exit ramp onto Rt. 5 from 91. She comes from the industrial park every day around 4:15pm – 4:30pm to go left onto Rt. 5. She has to proceed very cautiously because no one seems to think they have to stop; it happens in the morning also. She doesn’t know if there’s anything we can do about it

or if it's a State issue. Chairman Leach asked if it's the exit ramp stop sign or the industrial park stop sign. Ms. Farmer said it's the exit ramp stop sign when they are coming off the exit from 91 to take a right onto Rt. 5 South. Commissioner Mancuso has also seen this happening in this location.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone to enter into Executive Session at 7:24 pm to include Chief DeMarco and Admin. Lt. Carl for discussion on legal issues. Det. Roberts and Sgt. Knowles will attend for promotional interview for detective position.

SECONDED by Commissioner Long

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to end Executive Session at 8:14 pm

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Commissioner Filipone that after the interviews and careful consideration of the candidates and the entire examination process, motion made to promote Detective Scott Roberts (temporary position) to the permanent detective position, effective immediately. The commission would like to recognize the hard work from the candidates, their experience and positive attitude of both the candidates, and we truly appreciate their commitment and service to the town.

SECONDED by Commissioner Mancuso

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED

MOTION made by Commissioner Mancuso that due to the needs of the town and emergency conditions, vacation leave time was not possible in its entirety for the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police. Therefore, allow the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police to carry over up to fifteen (15) vacation days (not to exceed 15), past their accrual deadlines respectively and to be paid out for them, either this fiscal (budget) year or the next fiscal year, to make the impact as least as possible for the department.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED

12. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Commissioner Long to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm.

SECONDED by Commissioner Filipone

VOTED IN FAVOR: Commissioners Filipone/Long/Mancuso

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tweedlie - EWPC Recording Secretary