

191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470
TEL (203) 270-4256
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Joel Faxon
Brian Budd
Scott Cicciari
Neil Chaudhary
Stephen Sedensky

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

POLICE COMMISSION

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 6:00 P.M.
191 South Main Street, Newtown, CT
Conference Room

MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Present: Joel Faxon, Brian Budd, Scott Cicciari, Neil Chaudhary, Stephen Sedensky, Scott Cicciari

Also Present: Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop, Chief David Kullgren, First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, three members of the public (which include Paul Mangiafico and his wife), Officer Maryhelen McCarthy, Former Chief James Viadero

Chairman Faxon called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation: none

Police Union Participation: none

Consideration and Action on Minutes: Commissioner Sedensky moved to accept the minutes, with the change from, Commissioner Budd stated that if the borough does not approve the removal of the flagpole, then the state is not going to make any changes to Commissioner Budd stated that if the borough does not approve traffic lights at the flagpole, then the state is not going to make any changes of the regular meeting of October 3, 2023. Commissioner Cicciari seconded. Commissioner Chaudhary abstained. Motion passed.

Chief's Report: 45 Personnel, one on extended leave, one on military deployment that has been extended to January 31, 2024, and one pending retirement for January 2024. Recruitment for new hires is in process. The radio project is starting to wind down. Portable radios are being reprogrammed. Patrol participated in the state DOT grant conducting cell phone enforcement. A second wave is scheduled for April 2024. Hall Lane was reviewed by the traffic unit. 5/23 CTDOT lowered the speed limit from 25 to 20 mph, with the traffic counts of average speed 27 mph, 85% at 32 mph, AADT 652 vehicles. A suggestion was given for narrow road signs on both ends. It was not recommended to widen the road to make improvements to the roadway to accommodate the increased traffic. The issue has been reported to Google Maps and Waze. The state DOT stated that they do not have a way to tell GPS vendors not to use a specific local roadway. The State DOT can only recommend alternate routes that are state roads. Old Green Rd and Valley Field Road, signage is on order, they will be installed as prescribed by the commission. Commissioner Sedensky questioned the community act regarding round tables.

Commissioner Sedensky made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion on round tables talks on gun violence. Seconded by Commissioner Faxon. All in favor. Motion passed. Commissioner Sedensky then made a motion to waive the 2023 4th quarter on round table discussion on gun violence. Commissioner Faxon seconded the motion. Motion Passed. All in Favor.

Commissioner Faxon stated that the approval of the Chief of Police and the First Selectman will also be needed.

Old Business:

Botsford Hill Road / Railroad bridge, additional chevron signs placed on the curve in both directions to warn drivers. Monitoring will continue. Additional signage was placed on the curves in both directions. Monitoring for reduction in accidents. In lieu of the bridge being hit, there have been multiple vehicles that have hit the embankment.

New Business:

Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A Federal Highway Administration) Grant awarded to Newtown. Chief Kullgren stated that the concept is for planning money for areas that need improvements. Will work with vendors, and internal knowledge of the traffic unit to compile suggestions. Another suggestion for the funds is a study for flagpole traffic.

Consideration and possible action updates to department policies. (Accreditation) Chief Kullgren shared a brief overview of the changes to School Resource Policy affected by POST Accreditation Teirs 2 and 3, which talks about community policing models, the role of law enforcement, types of ordinances and policies investigating criminal behavior, guidance for the law enforcement officers, the policy relating to teachers that is more of a prevention program, as well as for advisors, mentors, and counselors updating them on responsibilities and concerns related to their positions.

Policy and directions General Order 4, Juveniles and Youths – indicates how the policy will be used in developing, implementing, and managing the current effective policies and procedures for handling juveniles. It will include how to respond to juvenile incidents, their needs, and how they should be handled. There was a question on MIT and to have it written out as Multi-disciplinary Investigation Team, which involves SRO's, staff from GA3, and hospital staff from Danbury Family and Children's Aid, which is the board that will review – Commissioner Sedensky suggested adding the statute number. Deputy Chief Bishop clarified that this applies only to juveniles.

Commissioner Faxon made a motion to approve General Orders 4.1 and 4.0 - SRO's and Juveniles. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded the motion. Motion Passed. All in Favor

Correspondence: none

Commissioners Participation:

Honoring of Police Commissioner Chairman Joel Faxon – Commissioner Faxon shared his thoughts and feelings regarding the 12 years that he has been on the Police Commission. First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Chief Kullgren, and Commissioner Budd shared their thoughts and feelings on Commissioner Faxon. First Selectman Rosenthal read a proclamation that was written for Commissioner Faxon. Chief Kullgren presented him with honoree material, including a plaque in his honor, police patches, and a pin.

Adjournment: Having no further business, Commissioner Sedensky motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners at 6:34 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Ciccari. Motion Passed. All in Favor.

Dana Ulibarri, clerk

Enclosures

Chief Report November 2023
Community Services Report October
DB Activity Report – Oct 2023
Incident Statistics Oct 2023
Newtown Stats 2022-2023 w chart-2
October 2023 Training Report

Chief's Report

Police Commission

11/03/2023

Personnel Report:

- Department Authorized Strength - 45 personnel
 - Injury/Extended Leave – 1 personnel
 - Field Training – 0 personnel
 - Military Deployment - 1 personnel, Sgt Adam James, deployed 10/1 - 1/31/24 w/ USCG
 - Effective Strength – 43 personnel
 - One Retirement is scheduled for January 2024
 - Recruiting has begun

Activities:

- Chief & Deputy Chief:
 - 10/4 CIRMA Site Visit, facility hazard assessment
 - 10/5 Department Head Meeting
 - 10/6 Radio Project Meeting
 - 10/4 Gun Buyback Meeting
 - 10/10 Fairfield County Chief of Police Meeting
 - 10/12 Meriden Police Promotional Board for Captain
 - 10/12 Newtown Sandy Hook Community Foundation Distribution Committee meeting.
 - 10/13 IACP Conference
 - 10/13 Radio Project Meeting
 - 10/18 Statewide Emergency Management Exercise
 - 10/19 Regional Training Facility Meeting
 - 10/19 Newtown Plan of Conservation and Development | Public Safety Meeting
 - 10/20 DOJ UAH Prep Meeting
 - 10/20 Radio Project Meeting
 - 10/23 FBINAA Meeting
 - 10/25 DJO UAH Presentation
 - 10/27 Radio Project Meeting
 - 10/28 NAA Gun Buyback
 - 10/28 DEA Drug Takeback
 - 11/2 Safe Streets 4 All, Meeting
 - 11/3 Radio Project Meeting
- Patrol:
 - DOT Distracted Driver Enforcement Grant, on October 27th and 30th, we participated in this grant. The patrols were broken up into four-hour blocks. The officer shifts were covered by Ofc Hull, Ofc DiGiovanni, and Ofc Ongaro. Their efforts resulted in 17 motor vehicle stops for violating CT's distracting driving laws, with 15 infractions and two verbal warnings.
 - The second Wave of enforcement is during the month of April, with 13 enforcement dates planned.
- Community Service Division:
 - See Attached Training Report.

- Training:
 - See Attached Training Report.
- Detective Bureau
 - See DB Activity Report
- Traffic Issues & Follow-Up:
 - Hall Lane Update, Traffic Unit Suggestions based on traffic counts and review:
 - 5/23 CTDOT lowered the speed limit from 25 to 20 mph.
 - Traffic Counts:
 - Average Speed, 27 mph, 85% 32 mph, AADT 652 vehicles.
 - Post "Narrow Road" signs on both ends to alert inbound traffic of the narrow road conditions.
or
 - Not Recommended; make improvements to the roadway to accommodate the increased traffic.
 - Reported to Google Maps and Waze.
 - State DOT stated they do not have a way to tell vendors not to use a local roadway. They only suggest alternate state routes.
- Old Green & Valley Field South Signage
 - No signage change has been made, as we are waiting for temporary signs to be created.

Department of
Police Services
191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470



Sergeant William Chapman

Tel: (203) 270-5841

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

In the month of October we participated in several "Community Helper" presentations at local schools.

Trick or Treating on Main Street was put on safely and without incident. We added our drone unit to the operational plan because of its effectiveness on Labor Day.

We taught the Freshman class at NHS in their Freshman Counselor Workshop class.

Sgt. Chapman was selected by Special Olympics to be part of the CT Delegation at the International Special Olympics Torch Run Conference.

The gun buyback and drug take backs were both very successful:

"The following are the numbers from the Drug Take Back and the Gun Buyback which took place on 10/28/2023:

We collected 163.75 lbs. of drugs for destruction.

Gun Buyback:

16 rifles
02 Derringers
18 shotguns
12 pistols
20 revolvers
01 black powder
02 "assault weapons"
00 "ghost guns"
20 gun safes were given out
TOTAL: 71 firearms turned in for destruction.

There was one firearm that was reported stolen out of Stamford in 1988, which we are investigating."

Sgt. W. Chapman #098
Newtown Police Dept.
Community Services
191 South Main St.
Newtown, CT 06470
(203) 270-4235 NPD Desk
(203) 770-6459 PD Mobile
NHGA, NTOA, NASRO, IPMBA

Department of
Police Services
191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470



David M. Kullgren
Chief of Police
Tel. (203) 426-5841
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

DETECTIVE BUREAU ACTIVITY

September 28, 2023 through October 30, 2023

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Detective Bureau:

1 Sexual Assault
1 Weapons Violation
1 Unattended Death

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Youth Division:

1 Health and Welfare Check

Total New Investigations: 4

Cases of Note:

Sex Offenses:

The Detective Bureau is investigating 1 new Sex Offense report, the investigation is ongoing.

Weapons Violation:

The Detective Bureau investigated, and made an arrest of, an unarmed School Security Guard for possession of a firearm on school grounds. The firearm was discovered in the security guards vehicle.

Unattended Death:

The Detective Bureau, in coordination with the Connecticut State Police Western District Major Crime Squad (WDMCS) is currently investigating human remains discovered in the wooded area on Edmond Road. At this time, there is no information that indicate any sort of suspicious circumstances surrounding the death. The investigation is ongoing.

Observed Trends:

- There have still been numerous Fraud / Bad Check calls for service received by the Newtown Police Department. These Calls for Service generally encompass common scams via phone call, text or email, and fraudulently issued or modified bank checks. A social media post was created in an attempt to educate Newtown residence regarding a common scam.

- There has been an unprecedented increase in written checks being stolen from residential / commercial “blue” USPS mailboxes. These checks are then fraudulently negotiated, typically out of state. The Newtown Police Department has created several public notices advising the residents of Newtown to stop mailing paper checks, or delivers these mailings directly to the post office counter.
- The Youth Division has been active in the community, making a visible presence to community businesses.

Prepared by Detective Lieutenant Liam Seabrook

Newtown Police Department

Incident Statistics Report

10/01/2023 00:00 Thru 10/31/2023 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P 911 CHECK	8
P ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE	1
P ALARM - CANCELLED	14
P ALARM FALSE	37
P ANIMAL CALL	37
P ASSIST AGENCY / MUTUAL AID	23
P BOATING STOP	9
P BUILDING CHECK	1114
P BURGLARY	1
P CIVIL MATTER	25
P COMMUNITY POLICING / EVENT	15
P CRISIS INTERVENTION	10
P DEATH NOTIFICATION	1
P DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	33
P DISPUTE	14
P DOMESTIC	2
P DRONE CALL OUT	1
P DUI	2
P DUMPING / LITTERING	1
P ERRATIC OPERATION	39
P ESCORT	2
P FIRE ASSIST	4
P FIREARMS / AMMUNITION SURRENDER	4
P FOUND / LOST PROPERTY	21
P FRAUD / BAD CHECK	15
P HARASSMENT	6
P HATE-BIAS RELATED	1
P HEALTH / WELFARE CHECK	19
P K9 CALL OUT / TRAINING	1
P LARCENY	4
P LOCKOUT MOTOR VEHICLE / BUILDING	4
P MEDICAL ASSIST	15
P MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE	39
P MISSING PERSON	1
P MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENT	7
P MVA	50
P MVA - DEER	6
P MVA - EVADING	2
P MVA - INJURY	9
P NOISE COMPLAINT	8
P PARKING ENFORCEMENT / COMPLAINT	6
P PUBLIC HAZARD	34

Newtown Police Department

Incident Statistics Report

10/01/2023 00:00 Thru 10/31/2023 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P RECREATIONAL SHOOTING	7
P ROBBERY	1
P SEX OFFENSES	1
P SOLICITATION / DOOR TO DOOR	2
P STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE	1
P SUICIDE THREAT / ATTEMPT	1
P SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	127
P THREATENING	4
P TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	18
P TRAFFIC STOP	65
P TRAFFIC STUDY / COMPLAINT	25
P TRESPASSING	2
P UNATTENDED DEATH	2
P VANDALISM	8
P WARRANT SERVICE	2
P WEAPONS VIOLATION/ SHOOTING COMPLAINT	2
Total:	1913

2022 NEWTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS
CALLS FOR SERVICE

2021											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1579	1216	1590	1336	1602	1614	1657	1618	1716	1916	1916	1618
2022											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1025	1129	1442	1414	1628	1489	1491	1739	1594	1484	1459	1451
17265											

TRAFFIC CRASHES

2021											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
59	57	48	55	64	50	43	76	38	58	58	540
2022											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
63	64	55	63	74	45	49	57	78	67	0	6
617											

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

2021											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
79	44	56	51	47	49	43	42	48	65	59	71
2022											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
12	6	9	8	13	10	10	9	4	11	10	10
112											

2021											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
96	89	118	86	74	57	64	64	54	35	58	711
2022											
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
13	16	25	8	17	13	8	14	15	25	154	154
1046											

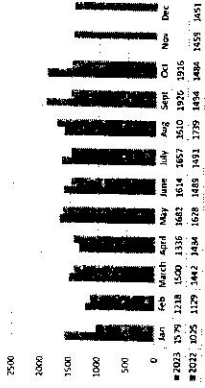
Traffic Enforcement (Written Warnings)



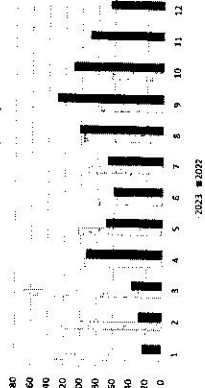
Traffic Enforcement (Moving Violations)



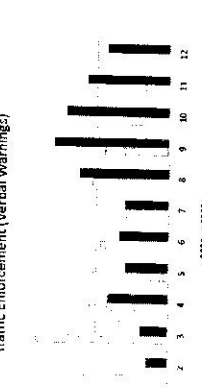
Calls for Service



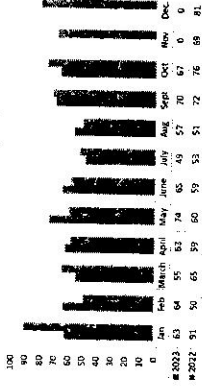
Traffic Enforcement (Total)



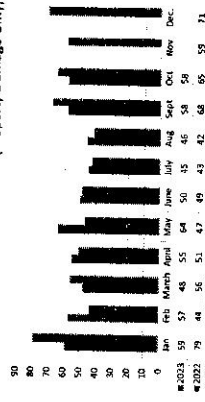
Traffic Enforcement (Verbal Warnings)



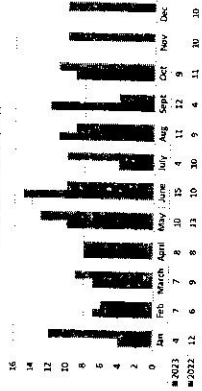
Traffic Crashes (ALL)



Traffic Crashes (Property Damage Only)



Traffic Crashes (Injury)



Department of
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Newtown, CT 06470



Lt. Richard Robinson
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Newtown Police Department Training October

During this month the following training was completed and/or instructed:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School Type</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Det. Monckton, Ofc. Mulhall	ESU	Sniper Monthly Training	10/24/23	8
Lt. Seabrook, Det. Monckton, Ofc. Hayes, Ofc. Mulhall	ESU	ESU Monthly Training	9/19/23	8
K9 Ofc. Figol	K9	K9 Monthly Training	10/10/23, 10/30/23	8
Ofc. Wlasuk	Accident Investigation	Basic Crash Investigation	9/29/23 – 10/6/23	80
Ofc. Guernsey	EMR	EMR Recertification	10.11.23 – 10/13/23	24
Lt. Robinson, Sgt. McDermott	Body Worn Cameras	Body Worn Cameras – Tactics for Effective Use	10/2/23	8
Lt. Robinson, Lt. Smith	Supervisor Training	Supervisor Training Officer Program	10/3/23	8
Ofc. McCluskey, Ofc. Guernsey	General Instruction	Drone Photography & Videography Part 2	10/4/23	3
Ofc. Wlasuk	Accident Reconstruction	Basic Crash Investigation	9/25/23 – 10/6/23	8
K9 Ofc. Figol, Ofc. Guernsey, SRO Pereira, Ofc. Piazza, Sgt. Wisentaner	Body Worn Cameras	Caught on Camera, Viral Video Survival	10/4/23	8
Ofc. McCarthy	General	Elder Abuse Conference	10/4/23	8
Ofc. Guernsey	General Instruction	Intro to Landscape & 3D Modeling	10/11/23	3
DEt. Harold, Det. Monckton	Investigations	Death Scene Investigations	10/9/23 – 10/13/23	40
Ofc. Facto	General Instruction	Eye Witness Identification Train the Trainer	10/10/23	8

Mary Kelley, Barbara Whittaker	General	Diversity Training	10/10/23	2.5
TO Penna	Command	Local Agency Sign Installation and Maintenance	10/12/23	3.5
LT. Smith	General	Protections Against and Response to DV	10/12/23	2
SRO McDermott	General	Basic Survival Spanish for Law Enforcement	10/16/23 – 10/20/23	40
Cindi Mazzucco	General	Diversity Training	10/17/23	2.5
A/Sgt. Pirhala	Investigations	Advanced Fatal Crash Investigations	10/18/23	8
Lt. Robinson, Sgt. Ruszczyk	Mental Health	Police Mental Health	10/19/23	1.5
SRO McDermott	Mental Health	SAFLEO Line Officer Training	10/24/23	8
Lt. Robinson, Sgt. Ruszczyk	Mental Health	SMART Training – Bridgeport	10/26/23	
Ofc. Facto, K9 Ofc. Figol, Sgt. Lorancaitis, Ofc. McGowan, Det. Monckton	General	Use of Force Train the Trainer Refresher	10/27/23	2
Sgt. Chapman	General	Special Olympics Training	10/27/23 – 10/31/23	40
Ofc. Flynn, Sgt. McDermott, Lt. Robinson, Ofc. Schoen, Sgt. Silver	General	Use of Force Train the Trainer Refresher	10/30/23	2

Lieutenant Richard Robinson
Professional Standards Bureau Commander
Newtown Department of Police Services