



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

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Joel Faxon
Brian Budd
Scott Cicciari
Neil Chaudhary
Stephen Sedensky

POLICE COMMISSION

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 7:00 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

Also Present: Captain Bryan Bishop, Chief David Kullgren, two members of the public

Chairman Faxon called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 of the regular meeting of May 2, 2023. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. Commissioner's Cicciari and Budd abstained. Motion passed.

Chief's Report: 45 strong, one on leave, effective strength 44. Interactive with community and other town departments. Commissioner Budd questioned the grant planning. Chief Kullgren stated that there are items for additional speed enforcement and potentially additional manpower. Working with Public Works their BOE has a grant writer who has volunteered to work on this.

Old Business:

Roadway Markings, Road List Present

Chief Kullgren had a database of roads that fit the criteria for double center lines. This is a first draft showing what is existing to help when roads are restriped and/or repaved. Commissioner Cicciari clarified that the first draft is of state roads that fit the MUTCD criteria. Commissioner Cicciari questioned how the decision was made to move from single stripe to no stripe. Chief Kullgren stated that it would be in Phase 2. Chief Kullgren will have Fred Hurley review the

list for potential repaves over the next year. Commissioner Sedensky questioned if there was a list of the roads that would be affected by this. Commissioner Faxon asked that the affected roads be listed on the agenda. Commissioner Chaudhary questioned the note on the road list, “requested” for certain roads. Chief Kullgren will clarify by email. Commissioner Faxon was on Churchill Road in Redding which is a windy road and it is striped with a single line. He feels that this road should be double striped but this is not under his jurisdiction. Commissioner Cicciari stated that next steps would be to get feedback from Fred Hurley. Commissioner Cicciari questioned the next steps for Phase 1. Commissioner Chaudhary stated that the list shows roads that have no lines, singles lines, or double lines. Commissioner Faxon stated that there will be a list of roads that need single or double striping. Commissioner Chaudhary questioned if these roads fit the federal guideline and would be shocked if all of them have 3000 ADT. Chief Kullgren clarified the MUTCD states, “should” be striped in reference to the volume. Chief Kullgren explained the collector roads that have one stripe may need to be added to the list for double stripes in the future.

A conversation was held regarding the July meeting and the August meeting. In July there is not a meeting. Commissioner Faxon stated that he will not be at the August meeting and would like to reschedule for a different date. Commissioner Faxon will send an email to see everyone’s availability.

New Business:

Consideration and Action on Policy & Procedures – Kullgren stated there are 3 items

Training policy – Chief Kullgren it has been amended to include post accreditation tiers 2 and 3. A copy of the changes was given to all board members. The green highlights are new, red are deletions, and yellow are changes. These modifications bring us into compliance with POST Accreditation, tiers 2 and 3. Commissioner Chaudhary questioned A3 – the designated training officer shall select instructors after consultation with the training committee and questioned what training committee. He wanted a reference to 3N. Commissioner Chaudhary also questioned Section N regarding the consideration and action on title change for position of captain assuming that goes through does that wording get changed. Chief Kullgren stated that it would be changed. Commissioner Sedensky referred to a DWI arrest and the officer being under training and the policies and procedures should address this type of a situation. Chief Kullgren stated that this has been addressed in the procedures. Commissioner Budd made a motion to accept the new proposed Training Policy, Commissioner Sedensky seconded. Motion passes.

Hate Crime Investigation Policy – Chief Kullgren stated input to these changes were taken from our community partners and the template policy from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Commissioner Sedensky stated that there should be a reference to current state statutes and questioned if the Town of Newtown’s statutes have any conflicts. Chief Kullgren stated that there are no known conflicts. Commissioner Chaudhary stated that there is a “should” in the policy that he is questioning, “in addition to collecting data on hate crimes this agency should develop a standard system for detecting, collecting, analyzing etc. for items that don’t meet the level of hate crime but are...” Chief Kullgren stated that there is already a system in place in our records management system. Through our UCR/NIBRS reporting this data is tracked and reported to the State and FBI. That any time a crime is reported the officer has a state statute that they enter the NIBRS code related to that crime. Faxon asked that it be worded as “this agency utilizes....”. Commissioner Sedensky what would be recorded if there was no violation by the state statute but violates the policy and would it be reported as a hate crime. Chief Kullgren stated that it would have to be a true crime for it to be reported to the state of Connecticut and the FBI. Commissioner Faxon read the statute 53A. Chief Kullgren stated that this is the template policy from the IACP and that it will replace the current template. Chief Kullgren said that in PowerDMS it will archive the previous version and the new version will be inserted and training done if required. All employees will sign off digitally. Commissioner Chaudhary questioned if the definition should be moved in the policy to the definition of hate crime in the policy. Chief Kullgren stated it would be appropriate to have it in both areas of the policy. Commissioner Faxon stated that there may be multiple areas where this could be appropriate. Commissioner Faxon asked that Connecticut’s hate crime laws including 53A and 181I should be added to the policy. Chief Kullgren will have the change inserted into the policy. Commissioner Chaudhary made a motion to approve, with

suggested amendments and changes, the Hate Crime Acceptance Policy of the IACP. Commissioner Cicciari seconded. Motion passes.

Title change for position of captain. It is typical for departments to have a Deputy Chief. Chief Kullgren is having to explain to other police officers who his second in command is while attending the NA. This change helps everyone realize who is second in command and give authority to that position. Chief Kullgren wants to change the title for Captain Bryan Bishop from Captain to Deputy Chief Bryant Bishop. Commissioner Sedensky questioned if there would no longer be a captain in the Newtown police department. Chief Kullgren stated that the duties would stay the same, it would just be a title change. Commissioner Faxon stated that he does not recollect a reason that this has not been done before. Chief Bishop stated that most larger cities and those the same size have changed to having a Deputy Chief. Commissioner Chaudhary questioned the future need of a Captain. Chief Kullgren said that right now it does not make sense in the new structure of the department. Commissioner Faxon made a motion to make a change of the position from Captain to Deputy Chief. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. Motion passes.

Executive Session, Chief's Performance Review

Commissioner Faxon moved the meeting to Executive Session at 7:33 pm.

Commissioner Faxon moved the meeting out of Executive Session at 7:52 pm.

Correspondence: none

Commissioners Participation: none

Adjournment: Having no further business the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners Commissioner Cicciari made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. Motion passes.

Dana Ulibarri, clerk