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Joel Faxon
Andrew Sachs
Scott Cicciari
Neil Chaudhary
Joan Plouffe

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 4, 2020
Town Hall South – Main Conference Room
3 Main Street, Newtown

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

Present: Joel Faxon, Scott Cicciari, Andy Sachs, Joan Plouffe, Neil Chaudhary

Also Present: Chief Viadero, Capt. Vanghele, four members of the public and one member of the press.

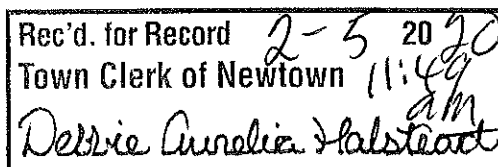
Chairman Faxon called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Public Participation: **Pete Sepi**, 83 Toddy Hill Road had a huge thank you for the commission; all efforts are very much appreciated. **Joe Wasik**, 80 Engleside Terrace spoke about the parking problems in his neighborhood. There is a dead end and neighbors park cars on the road. Too many cars make it impossible for residents to turn around, which is necessary to access certain properties. The police have been called many times. Chief Viadero said Engleside is a non-conforming street and he will talk with the officer who handled the calls as well as the Town Engineer.

Police Union Participation: none.

Consideration and action on the minutes of Jan 7, 2020: Commissioner Sachs moved to accept the minutes of January 7, 2020. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. Commissioner Plouffe abstained. The acceptance of the minutes passed.

Chief's Report: The budget has been presented to the Board of Selectmen. There is a 2.80%, \$195,000 increase which is mainly salaries, benefits and pension contributions. There were minor operations budget increases. Vehicle purchase had the largest increase from prior years, \$7,500, because the Ford Explorer went into a new model year with increased pricing. One cost is new interior compartments. Staffing remains unchanged; all hires in the past four to five years have been retained. There will be at least one retirement in June and another anticipated later in the fiscal year. Steve Ketchum's name will be put on the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The ceremony will be in May. There was a DUI accident on Church Hill Road, with a car through a house; nobody was hurt. Over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend high school students were involved in mailbox vandalism. An outstanding warrant was served relative on a child pornography charge; the person was brought back to CT from MA. Richard Crafts has been released to a half-way house in Bridgeport. He will be moved to NH or VT in May; he will not return to Newtown. Chief Viadero has been involved in POSTC council committees relative to pursuits and officer wellness. Information was provided on the Police Commissioners Association of Connecticut.



Old Business:

a.) Police Building Update: There is a lot of activity, the project is two to three weeks ahead of schedule due to the mild winter. There has been excavating, the foundation was laid for the addition, masonry is going up, brick laying and iron will go in by the end of the month. Chairman Faxon said the construction progress is shocking. He is optimistic a lot of work can be done in a compacted amount of time.

b.) Toddy Hill Road Update: Enforcement continues.

Correspondence: A resident recognized Officer Monkton for his great work at the high school.

Commissioners Participation: Commissioner Cicciari attended the weekly project meeting for the new building; it is exciting to see the progress.

Public Participation: **Pete Sepi** said that Southbound works but there is no speed limit sign in close proximity Northbound. Chief Viadero said that the sign was put up per the traffic engineer recommendations. Drivers need to see the sign, react to it and have reactionary time to slow down. **Joe Wasik** noted that the neighbors also put vehicles on ramps to change the oil, in the street.

Adjournment: Having no further business to report the police commissioners adjourned their regular meeting at 6:47p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Marcinek, Clerk