

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
May 21, 2013

1. Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSIONER:

Steve Smith
Mayor Mezzo
Linda Mayfield
James San Angelo

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Deputy Chief Joshua Bernegger
John Lawlor, Director H.R.
Burgess Laurie Jackson

ALTERNATES:

Walter Bertotti
Stephanie Savoy
Andy Barnes

ABSENT:

Ralph Roper
Bruce Whitaker

Staff: 0

Press: 0

Public: 2

(S. Savoy arrived at 7:15 p.m.; Mayor Mezzo arrived at 7:30 p.m.)

2. Chairman Smith led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:

Chairman Smith appointed A. Barnes, W. Bertotti and S. Savoy as voting members in the absence of Mayor Mezzo, R. Roper and B. Whitaker respectively.

4. A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by W. Bertotti to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on April 16, 2013.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Laurie Jackson, 204 Margaret Circle, expressed concerns she and her mother shared regarding solicitors in their neighborhood. She also stated the Naugatuck Housing Authority had issues with door-to-door solicitation. Chief Edson and

Deputy Chief Bernegger explained the process for obtaining a vendor's permit and will look into the incident in her neighborhood.

Helen Northrop, 61 Nettleton Avenue, introduced her son Colin, age 5, who suffers from Down's syndrome. She was seeking assistance to monitor Colin due to his ability to run from their home undetected. J. San Angelo recommended contacting other special need parents for their input and support. Chief Edson and Deputy Chief Bernegger said they will research this issue but believe that police departments are a third party resource in situations such as these. The Alzheimer's' Association may offer assistance for monitoring family members in an attempt to flee from their home.

6. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

7. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A motion by L. Mayfield and seconded by W. Bertotti to accept the Chief's monthly reports.

Discussion: Chief Edson stated that it has been a difficult budget season and it was necessary to draw from the Contingency Fund to cover the shortage in the Overtime Account. The new fiscal year will be challenging and the request for the purchase of new vehicles has been denied by the Joint Boards. Chief Edson further remarked that the hiring process is moving along and he expects to interview some lateral candidates.

Vote: Unanimous

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

A request for the installation of a handicapped parking sign at 97 Fern Street, Apt. #11 was received. This matter was referred to the Traffic Subcommittee and will be discussed at the next Regular Meeting. It was decided that correspondence such as this will be referred directly to the appropriate subcommittee and not read at the Commission meeting.

Chief Neil Dryfe, Cheshire Police Department, commended Detective Ronald "Jay" Pugliese for his assistance in an investigation.

Charles Sherwood, Director South Central Criminal Justice Administration, thanked Deputy Chief Joshua Bernegger for participating in the oral board examination for the rank of captain and Detective Amanda Devan for serving as a panelist on the oral board examination for police candidates.

Literature was received for electronic parking meters which was given to Mayor Mezzo. He expressed an interest into enforcement of outstanding parking tickets.

A discussion took place regarding the implementation of a new process for collection.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

10. OPEN ITEMS: NONE

11. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

J. San Angelo noted it was time to place an ad in the newspaper for towing services. Wendy Hozer will be contacted to do so.

12. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

J. San Angelo mentioned an incident at 29 Porter Avenue. Deputy Chief Bernegger and Mayor Mezzo have already resolved the situation.

Chairman Smith reminded the Commissioners that the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27th and they will meet at 8:30 a.m. in Union City under the bridge.

A. Barnes said that he is not receiving emails and his address needs to be corrected.

13. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING HIRING PRACTICES:

The Commissioners discussed their concerns regarding the formulation of interview questions, scoring and their past practice of choosing a police candidate. Mayor Mezzo asked the Commission to work with Human Resources to ensure that interviews are conducted within legal hiring practices. Chairman Smith and L. Mayfield suggested a meeting with John Lawlor. It was agreed to hold a Special Meeting on June 4, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss hiring practices with H.R. Director Lawlor.

14. A motion by W. Bertotti and seconded by J. San Angelo at 8:15 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at the Naugatuck Police Department.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:

S. Smith, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission

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