

MINUTES

WATERTOWN POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

WATERTOWN POLICE STATION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2009, 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Patricia Kropp, Secretary
Judy Sprano, Chairman
Mark Tedesco
Jack Walton

ABSENT: Robert LeBlanc

OTHERS PRESENT: Herm Desena, Deputy Police Chief
John Gavallas, Police Chief

1. Convene Regular Meeting - 7:30 P.M.

Ms. Pilicy-Sprano, Chairman, Called the Meeting to Order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Pilicy-Sprano, Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

3. Public Participation

Samantha Henry, Southbury, CT 06795

Ms. Henry introduced herself as the recently hired Town Times reporter.

4. Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – October 14, 2009

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Tedesco) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2009 as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Watertown Police Commission

Regular Meeting

December 9, 2009

Page 2

5. Correspondence

Ms. Pilicy-Sprano reported an invitation was received from the Police Benevolent Association for their Annual Christmas Party, to be held on December 18, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at the Watertown Police Department.

6. New Business

A. Parking Problem on Tower Road/"No Parking" Signs

Chief Gavallas reported they chose to put in temporary "no parking" signs on the street when warranted, a couple of times a year. A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Kropp asked what was being done about sidewalk shoveling?

Chief Gavallas stated they will be meeting this Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. with the Public Works Department regarding that issue as well as other Winter issues.

B. Approval of Meeting Dates – 2010

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Tedesco) to approve the 2010 meeting dates, and changing the starting times to 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Unfinished Business

None

8. Chairman's Report

Ms. Pilicy-Sprano discussed the sidewalk issue on Bunker Hill Road and meeting with the City of Waterbury regarding this issue.

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Tedesco) to allow the Chairman to represent the Police Commission at a meeting with the City of Waterbury concerning sidewalk issues on Bunker Hill Road.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Chief's Report

A. October & November, 2009 – Police Department Activity

Chief Gavallas gave a report concerning the Police Department activity for October and November, 2009 as follows. A lengthy discussion ensued.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2009 REPORT

Corporal David Marinaro and his police canine, Enzo, will be graduating from the Connecticut State Police Canine Training Academy on Thursday, December 17, 2009. Corporal Marinaro and Enzo will have completed 16 weeks of intensive training. Enzo is now certified as a police canine.

Officer Avelina Rivera has recently completed a course in the installation of toddler's seats. The police department, as a public service, installs these seats for the residents of Watertown by appointment. The seats are appropriately installed by Officer Rivera, and parents are instructed on their proper usage. The training course she attended is sponsored by the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation.

Deputy Chief Herm Desena recently completed an intensive course in executive leadership at Roger Williams University in Providence, Rhode Island. Deputy Chief Desena attended two three-day sessions, one in October and one in November, as well as some intensive on-line instructions.

Officer Jesse Esposito successfully tried out and was accepted to be an active member of the Waterbury Police Department Regional Emergency Response Team (SWAT). Officer Esposito, who is a U.S. Army veteran, will continue ongoing training with the Waterbury based ERT team and respond to out of town emergency situations as need be.

Sergeant Todd Robinson and Officer Kevin Conard recently completed the final phase of training over a two-week period in order to be certified as accident reconstructionists. Sergeant Robinson and Officer Conard are integral members of the Central Naugatuck Valley Accident Reconstruction Team composed of this agency along with officers from Middlebury, Naugatuck, and Wolcott.

We recently completed oral interviews of 16 possible candidates for the three open positions on the police department. We are now going to begin the background investigations.

Watertown Police Commission

Regular Meeting

December 9, 2009

Page 4

We are in the process of sending 11 patrol officers to a course in Radiation Detection sponsored by the Counter-Terrorism Task Force of the Connecticut State Police in conjunction with the NYPD. Each officer successfully completing this course will be given a personal radiation detection device worth \$1,600. This device will be carried by the officers on duty and utilized to detect any incidents of radiation that might indicate a terrorist threat. The Waterbury Police Department has recently trained over 100 of their officers in this program, and they too have been issued these personal radiation detection devices. All overtime accumulated by sending these officers to school will be reimbursed through a grant made available by the NYPD.

At last Monday's Council meeting, the Council appropriated \$30,000 in grant money to begin the purchase of new mobile data terminals for all of our marked patrol cars. We will also be purchasing a new server as well, which we hope will speed up the operation of the new MDT's. This is a grant with no matching funds, and all expenditures will be 100 percent reimbursed.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Tedesco) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Pilicy-Sprano, Chairman
Watertown Police Commission

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk