

MINUTES

WATERTOWN POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

WATERTOWN POLICE STATION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008, 7:30 P.M.

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

ABSENT: None

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

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

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

2. Roll Call

Ms. Sprano, Chairman, executed the Roll Call.

3. Public Participation

Dave LeBlanc, Middlebury Road, Watertown, CT 06795

Mr. LeBlanc asked if the Commission had received a Traffic Study for Heminway Park Road from Roy Cavanaugh.

Ms. Sprano replied she did not, but could find out.

Mr. LeBlanc also discussed that some of the Board Members for this Commission do not have contact numbers or emails on the Town Website. He suggested either a phone number or an email address is provided for the public on the website. The Commission Members objected to this request because they cannot act as Police Commissioners when not meeting as a formal group.

Mr. LeBlanc also expressed interest in being on the Police Commission, when a seat becomes available.

Ms. Sprano, Chairman, Closed Public Participation at this time.

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4. Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – November 12, 2008

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Walton) to Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2008.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Correspondence

Ms. Sprano reported they received an invitation to the Police Department's Holiday Party to be held on December 19, 2008.

6. New Business

A. 2009 Meeting Dates

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Walton) to approve the 2009 Meeting Schedule as presented.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Cross Walk Signs

A brief discussion took place regarding the cross walk signs. The Police Department will be responsible for placing and removing these crosswalk signs; however they won't utilize the signs during the Winter months.

MOTION: (Mr. Tedesco, sec. Mr. Walton) to approve the purchase of five (5) safety signs for cross walks by the Watertown Police Department.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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7. Unfinished Business

A Discussion and Possible Action regarding Traffic Problems on Heminway Park Road

Ms. Sprano reported they cannot put crosswalks in due to State enforced site line issues per the Public Works Director. The changes that were made are working smoothly. A discussion took place regarding the problems and the solutions.

B. Civilian Complaint Policy

Ms. Sprano explained the civilian complaint document.

8. Chairman's Report

None

9. Chief's Report

A. October, 2008 - Police Department Activity

Chief Gavallas gave a report regarding the November activity in the Police Department which included:

- Adams Food Store donated \$5,000 and the dog food to the K-9 Program. The training has begun.
- Critical Incident Training has begun with about 6 or 7 officers. Any overtime costs incurred will be paid by the training program.
- Attended a Trade Show in San Diego, CA for new technology and equipment.
- Internet Predators are being investigated on line by the Department.
- Toy Drive was held Thanksgiving Weekend and the toys were turned over to the Angels Watching Over Us group.
- Senior Dinner was held yesterday, and it was very successful.
- Letter was sent to Elaine Adams, Chairman of the Town Council, asking for the new communications system. Northeast Communications will give us another quote. This system is for Fire, Police, and Public Works.
- December 20, 2008 will be Tip a Cop at Dunkin Donuts to benefit the Special Olympics.
- Click It Or Ticket Campaign was held in November with the Regional Traffic Squad. Connecticut s now 85% in seat belt compliance.

Mr. LeBlanc asked why the K-9 dog was brought from Yugoslavia. Chief Gavallas replied they breed that type of dog in Yugoslavia and they are highly trained dogs.

Mr. LeBlanc asked if the department still had a bike patrol? (Tape #1, Side A ended – may have missed some).

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TAPE SIDE B DID NOT RECORD – REMAINDER OF MINUTES TAKEN FROM NOTES

Mr. LeBlanc discussed the procedure to warn residents regarding storm parking bans.

Ms. Kropp and Mr. Walton discussed the traffic lights by Taft School and Davis Street. Chief Gavallas will contact CL&P.

Ms. Sprano and Mr. Walton will meet with Chief Gavallas regarding the budget and report back to the Commission at the January, 2009 meeting.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: (Ms. Kropp, sec. Mr. Walton) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Sprano, Chairman
Watertown Police Commission

Approved: _____
Lynn M. LaForme, Clerk