

OLD SAYBROOK POLICE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

August 28, 2017

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Old Saybrook Police Commission was held on Monday, August 28, 2017 at the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

Present: Vice Chairman Von Dassel, Secretary Moran, Commissioner Burnham, Maselli, Cooper and Coppes. Chief Spera was present from the Department of Police Services.

This meeting was video and audio taped by the Town of Old Saybrook.

I. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chairman Von Dassel called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM and led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **Minutes**

A. **March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Maselli made a motion to approve the March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Coppes seconded the motion. The motion to approve the March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes passed with a vote of 5 in favor and 0 against. Commissioner Cooper abstained from voting.

III. **Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the Public.

IV. **Executive Reports**

A. **Financial**

1. FY Budget Status

Chief Spera reviewed the expenses and supplies spreadsheet stating that the Department is in great shape. Items that are expanded are pre-paid for entire the fiscal year such as gasoline.

2. Report of Off Budget Accounts

The Commission discussed Off Budget Accounts.

3. FY 2017 Budget

Chief Spera stated that he is still waiting for Town Hall to release their audit. The Department ended the year around \$100,000 in the black. He stated that the Department has always maintained the same philosophy as years prior but the cost savings was due to creative scheduling dealing with so many personnel losses.

B. Administrative

1. Possible Executive Session – To Interview Candidates for the Position of Patrolman Trainee.

Commissioner Cooper made a motion to enter into Executive Session inviting Chief Spera, Sergeant DePerry and Records Clerk Jennifer Damato to join. Commissioner Burnham seconded the motion. The motion to enter into Executive Session passed with a vote of 6 in favor and 0 against.

The Police Commission entered into Executive Session at 7:10 PM.

The Police Commission exited Executive Session and resumed Public Session at 7:47 PM.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on the Appointment of Patrolman Trainees to fill current vacancies.

Commissioner Burnham made a motion to appoint Jared White as a Patrolman Trainee pending the completion of the hiring process at a time that meets operational demands of the Department to be determined by Chief Spera. Commissioner Maselli seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Jared White as Patrolman Trainee passed with a vote of 6 in favor and 0 against.

3. Personnel Report

Chief Spera thanked the Commission for appointing Jared White to the position of Patrolman Trainee. He has spoken to Chairman Stuart about holding a special meeting soon to fill the other positions. He stated that he wanted to make sure he was clear that the appointments are filling vacancies not adding additional positions.

He stated that High School Resource Officer Gabianelli has attended high school orientation and he is hoping to get her certified quickly.

V. Commission Subcommittee Reports

Vice Chairman Von Dassel stated that the evaluation subcommittee is planning to meet at Town Hall on September 5th from 5:00 – 6:00 PM.

The Police Department study committee stated that the draft RFQ has been received by the Unions. The subcommittee is waiting for the Union's response and will review and possibly make changes to the draft and then it will be forwarded to the Commission.

VI. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the Public.

VII. Comments from the Chief of Police

Chief Spera stated that the Less than Lethal force policy has been implemented due to the hard work of Sergeant DePerry, Sergeant DeMarco and Officer Williams. He also thanked the Commission for their support towards the program.

He stated that the Sergeant and Lieutenant process has been opened up and applications have been received. A test will be given and the applicants will be presented to the Commission for an interview. He is looking to promote one to Lieutenant right now as one Master Sergeant is still serving.

VIII. **Comments and/or Concerns from Commissioners**

Commissioner Cooper asked Chief Spera who is in charge should something happen to him.

Chief Spera responded that the highest ranking Officer would be in charge.

Commissioner Cooper asked if Chief Spera notifies the Police Commission if he goes out of Town and Chief Spera responded no he does not.

IX. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Maselli made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cooper seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a vote of 6 in favor and 0 against.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

The next regular Police Commission meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the first floor conference room at the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Damato
Records Clerk for the Old Saybrook Police Commission