

Old Saybrook Police Commission

Special Meeting

July 22, 2019

MINUTES

A special meeting of the Old Saybrook Police Commission was held on Monday, July 22, 2019 at the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

Present: Chairman Von Dassel, Vice Chairman Shippee, Secretary Wilcox and Commissioners Moran, Cooper, Reid and Keeney. Chief Spera and Lieutenant DePerry were present from the Department of Police Services.

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Von Dassel called the meeting to order at 5:29 PM and led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Minutes

a. June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Keeney made a motion to accept the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Secretary Wilcox seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Shippee stated that she wanted the minutes to reflect the fact that she did not vote against the dog but that she abstained from the vote.

The motion to accept the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes with the change in vote passed with a vote of 7 in favor and 0 against.

III. Executive Reports

a. Police Explorer Program – Presentation & Awards Ceremony

Sergeant Hackett and Officer Stratidis presented awards to the Police Explorers in front of their families and a power point presentations along with a Q&A for the Police Commission.

b. Financial

Chief Spera stated that in the Police Commission packets were the expenses and supplies spreadsheet, payroll and off budget information for fiscal year 2019-2020. He stated that the Police Department has not received the pre-paid gas bill for the year so once that is received that will be paid and most of that line item will be expended but that since FY 20 rolled around spending has been frozen for every other line item.

c. Administrative

1. Personnel Report

Chief Spera stated that Records Clerk Michelle Berner will be leaving the Department as she has accepted a job as a secretary over with the Board of Education. He stated that her new job offers so much more than what the Police Department can provide. It is a true full time stable job with a much higher salary, union benefits and much more job security as her new position is not dependent on the budget passing every year. She will be leaving in a couple of weeks but she has agreed to stay on per diem to make sure that the Records Department is running smooth after her departure and to help train the new employee. He stated it is a true loss but he's very happy for Michelle.

2. OSPD 60

Chief Spera revealed his vision for the anniversary celebration with the Police Commission.

3. K-9 Program Update

Chief Spera updated the Commission stating that two applicants have applied to be the next K-9 handler and that he will be interviewing them this week. He will make his decision by Friday and he has asked his leadership team for their input on his decision and he is currently receiving that information.

He stated that K-9 Chase and Officer Schulz recently did a demonstration down in Indiantown last weekend and that demo resulted in about \$4,500 in donations from citizens who wanted to help support that program.

4. Correspondence

Chief Spera passed around the most recent correspondence.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action concerning Disbanding the Police Commission's Organizational Structure and Personnel Staffing Subcommittee

Secretary Wilcox stated that he was happy that the Chief made time to speak with him last week and he stated that instead of disbanding the subcommittee he would like the subcommittee to review the revised RPF and schedule a meeting to discuss it after everyone has had the chance to review it. Chief stated that he will email the revised RFP out to the subcommittee and get input for dates and schedule meeting.

V. Roundtable Discussion Concerning Creating a Subcommittee to Develop a Request for Proposal for Professional Consulting Services.

VI. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

VII. Comments from the Chief of Police

Chief Spera stated that he will be reaching out to both the Democratic Town Committee and the Republic Town Committee to meet with all candidates who will be running for the Police Commission to and ask them to come to the Police Department to get an overview, tour and more.

VIII. Comments and/or Concerns from Commissioners

Chairman Von Dassel stated that he would like to congratulate the Chief on his upcoming wedding.

Commissioner Keeney stated that a couple of women that he knows has passed away recently and he stated that the families are very grateful to the Old Saybrook Police Department and Ambulance Association for all that they have done. He also offered his congratulations to Chief and Heather on their upcoming wedding.

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Keeney made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Reid seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a vote of 7 in favor and 0 against.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer D'Amato
Records Clerk for the Old Saybrook Police Commission