

## **Old Saybrook Police Commission**

Special Meeting

January 10, 2024

### **MINUTES**

A special hybrid meeting of the Old Saybrook Police Commission was held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. The meeting was recorded and can be viewed in its entirety at <https://youtu.be/sxjNF8a8qDk>

**Present:** Chairman Wilcox, Secretary Notar-Francesco, Commissioners Calle, Von Dassel, Ciliano and Prast. Vice Chairman Shippee was present virtually. Chief Spera was present virtually from the Department of Police Services.

#### **I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance (0:20)**

Chairman Wilcox called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM for the Police Commission and led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **II. Comments from the Public (0:45)**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **III. Brief FY 25 Budget Overview By the Chief of Police (1:02)**

Chief Spera presented a brief overview of the FY 25 Marine Patrol Budget.

Secretary Notar-Francesco asked about the discrepancy in the total budget numbers from last year.

Chief Spera stated that the Marine Patrol budget was reduced at the Board of Selectman/Board of Finance level but that the book uses the number that the Police Commission approved last year.

The Commission briefly discussed the Marine Patrol Budget.

Chief Spera presented an overview of the FY Operating Budget.

Chief Spera explained the budget philosophy and that the Police Officers are out of contract as of June 30, 2024. They will begin contract negotiations soon. The First Selectman and the Finance Director approved the 3% salary increase placeholder for FY 25 for the Police Officers, but Chief Spera explained that 3% could go up or it could go down.

Chief Spera discussed his proposed budget enhancement ideas with the Commission.

The Commission discussed pay equity for the position of Executive Assistant and creation of a Deputy Chief of Police position.

Chief Spera advised the Commission that he kept the General Expenditures flat except for an addition of \$5,000 to the Selection Process/Recruitment line item. This line item is related to the costs associated with the hiring process, medical costs, examinations, drug screenings, background checks and more.

Commissioner Calle asked about keeping the Building and Ground Maintenance line item flat. Chief Spera and the Commission discussed the police facility and a maintenance plan for the future.

**IV. Discussion and Possible Action on the FY 25 Marine Patrol Budget. (1:14:00)**

Commissioner Calle made a motion to approve the FY 25 Marine Patrol Budget in the amount of \$65,529. Commissioner Prast seconded the motion. The motion to approve the FY 25 Marine Patrol Budget passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

**V. Discussion and Possible Action on the FY 25 Operating Budget. (1:15:22)**

Chief Spera asked if there were any documents or information that he should provide to the Commission for tomorrow's continued discussion.

The Commission discussed the budget enhancements to decide what is a "now" action in the proposed budget and what is something to think about.

The Commission will continue the discussion on the FY 25 Operation Budget tomorrow.

**VI. Comments from the Public (1:25:12)**

There were no comments from the public.

**VII. Comments from the Chief of Police (1:25:30)**

The Chief of Police had no comment.

**VIII. Comments from Police Commissioners (1:25:40)**

Chairman Wilcox commented.

**IX. Adjournment (1:26:20)**

Secretary Notar-Francesco made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Calle seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

---

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