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**POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2024**

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Police Commission was called to order by Commissioner Tenesha Grant, at 5:00 P.M. in the Board of Education Conference Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. In attendance were Commissioner Jenna Caulfield, Commissioner Tenesha Grant, Commissioner Lemke, Commissioner Michael Long, Chief Nicholas Boulter, and Deputy Chief Chris Davis. Absent was Chair Travis Schweizer

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Lemke read the summary of letters received since the last meeting of the commission on January 8, 2024.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. After a motion was made by Commissioner Long and seconded by Commissioner Caulfield it was unanimous:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting at the next Police Commission Meeting.

5. REPORTS

a. Chairperson's Report

i. None

b. Chief's Report

i. General

- **Personnel-** The department currently has 3 vacancies- there is a police candidate presentation later during this meeting and hopefully another candidate will be presented at the April meeting. The department still has 5 sworn personnel out on extended leave who are assigned to the patrol function. Two have been out the entire fiscal year and beyond. One has been out for the last 3 months and is expected to return in 2 months. The fourth has been out over 3 months and is expected to return this month. The fifth on leave from the patrol function has been working in a modified capacity for 7 months and is not expected to return to full duty until next fiscal year. There have been other officers on extended leave during this year and it is expected that at least two more will be out in the near future. To deal with these staffing shortages, last year the traffic officer and a detective were moved to the patrol function. That helped with the patrol function, but took away from other services. Most of the shortages are being handled with overtime. As you can see on the budget status and as predicted, the department will be over budget considerably by the end of this fiscal year. It is expected to be able to cover that overage within the police budget due to salaries associated with vacancies. Jarod Emirzian is wrapping up the last quarter of the police academy with a graduation date in April. After graduation, he will begin his field training program, which is expected to last until August 2024. The accreditation specialist has been with us full time since September 2022. She has been an incredible addition to the police department, but she has recently decided to pursue other opportunities. The upcoming

vacancy has been posted on the town website (Simsbury-ct.gov) under Employment Opportunities on the Town Manager and Human Resources page, as well as Facebook and LinkedIn.

- **Training-** The department has been trying to balance the shortages and overtime expenditures while still providing professional growth opportunities throughout the department. Members of the department have recently participated or will be participating in annual recertification training, special victims investigations, advanced crash investigations, crime scene photography, human trafficking, critical incident dispatching, a mid-management course, upper management level command college, an additional mid-management command school, death scene investigations, media relations, etc.
- **Projects-** Rapid SOS - The Simsbury Police Department recently upgraded its capabilities in our Communications Center (Dispatch). We added supplementary software called Rapid SOS which works in conjunction with the emergency 911 phone system. Rapid SOS provides detailed subscriber information (including health warning alerts). It also provides a more detailed mapping system (Google Earth quality view) which will continually update the location as the phone is moving. This greatly increases our ability to quickly locate a person(s) potentially in distress.
- **Recent/Upcoming Events-** Members of the department recently attended the 2024 Special Olympics Torch Run kickoff, where they celebrated 2023 accomplishment by Special Olympics and the Olympians and discussed plans for 2024. Earlier today the department started a speed enforcement campaign specifically on rural roads through the end of May. The grant is financially supported by the Department of Transportation and effort will be scattered throughout the week at varying times. The Citizens Police Academy is in week 4 of the 10-week program.

ii. Consolidated Monthly Report — December 2023 & January 2024

iii. Preliminary Monthly Activity Report — January & February 2023

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Chief Boulter introduced Nicholas Lagonigro to the Police Commission for the role of police officer and gave an overview on his education and work experience. Nicholas answered questions from the Commissioners.

The Police Commission moved to enter executive session to discuss the application of police officer candidate. In attendance at executive session were Commissioner Jenna Caulfield, Commissioner Tenesha Grant, Commissioner Eric Lemke, Chief Nicholas Boulter, Deputy Chief Chris Davis and Jennifer Wellington.

Public Session reconvened and after a motion was made by Commissioner Long and seconded by Commissioner Caulfield, it was unanimous:

VOTED: To approve the hiring of Nick Lagonigro as a police officer, pending full completion of the background and hiring process, with an expected start date within the next two weeks.

- b. The Commission discussion and potential action on resolution regarding pension plan changes. A letter from Chair Schweizer was read, giving his support for the proposed amendments to the Town's retirement plan.

After a motion was made by Commissioner Caulfield and seconded by Commissioner Grant it was unanimous:

VOTED: To support the proposed amendments to the Town's retirement plan be transmitted to the Board of Selectmen Personnel Subcommittee and to the Town Manager for their consideration.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Budget workshop was held on Saturday, March 9, 2024. The Chief, Deputy Chief, and Commissioner Caulfield were in attendance.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Caulfield made a motion to adjourn at 5:44 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Long. All were in favor and the motion passed.