# POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING APRIL 12, 2021

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Police Commission was called to order by Chairperson Jenna Caulfield at 7:08 P.M. via Zoom Meeting. In attendance were Commissioner Terry Fogarty, Commissioner Michael Long, Commissioner Travis Schweizer, Commissioner Tenesha Grant, Chief Nicholas Boulter, Deputy Chief Chris Davis and Lt. Gregory Samselski.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## 3. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Fogarty read the summary of letters received since the last meeting of the Commission on March 8, 2021.

## 4. PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Chairperson Caulfield read an email from Joan Coe, who wrote again about the internal investigation that was discussed at the last two police commission meetings. She also wrote about a pregnant officer and a former officer that resigned.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After a motion was made by Commissioner Fogarty and seconded by Commissioner Schweizer, it was unanimous, with Chairperson Caulfield and Commissioner Long abstaining:

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the March 8, 2021 Regular Meeting.

#### 6. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Fogarty brought up the 2018 footlocker incident that has been mentioned by Joan Coe in the Public Audience section of the last two Police Commission meetings. It is Commissioner Fogarty's opinion that there is no reason to re-open the investigation. Commissioner Long agreed with Commissioner Fogarty in regards to the outcome of the internal investigation and explained the reasoning as to why the formal complaint process was instituted several years ago. Commissioner Long suggested a motion to suspend public audience from the meetings until the emergency order is lifted. Public audience is not required by law and has not been an effective mechanism. The Commissioners discussed different ways citizens can voice concerns and feedback. Citizens can reach out to a member of the executive staff, request a report or follow the citizen complaint process.

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

**VOTED:** To suspend public audience from police commission agendas and meetings until at least the emergency order is lifted.

## 7. REPORTS

## a. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Caulfield thanked Commissioner Fogarty for chairing the last police commission meeting. During the budget workshop, the Board of Selectman denied the hiring of 1 additional officer. A training simulator and de-escalation training was granted. The budget then went on to the

Board of Finance where the police vehicles were removed from the capital budget and moved into the police budget. The increase for the police overtime budget was also denied. Chairperson Caulfield also notified the Commissioners of a proposed Senate bill that is looking to phase out the use of School Resource Officers.

# b. Chief's Report

## i. General

- Marcus Communication started installing new radios in the police vehicles
- The department is currently participating in the state's distracted driving campaign until the end of April
- Still awaiting results from the CALEA re-accreditation

#### Personnel:

- Still have 1 dispatch and 3 sworn position vacancies; the department is continuing to review applications and interview perspective candidates
- 2 officers are still out due to a non-work related injury
- Members are still being affected by COVID; one member contracted COVID and one was required to quarantine due to an exposure at work

Chief Boulter and Deputy Chief Davis also have an overview on a response to aggression incident. The responding officers performed extremely well and without injury in a peaceful manner.

ii. Consolidated Monthly Report – February 2021
It was noted that there have been 4 motor vehicle thefts this year.

iii. Preliminary Monthly Activity Report - March 2021
No comments

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Long acknowledged the hard work of Chairperson Caulfield, the Chief and the Deputy Chief during the budget workshop and said he shared the Commission's and command staff's disappointment at the cuts made to what all felt was an already understaffed department. He said he felt Simsbury deserved better.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Long made motion to adjourn at 8:00 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Fogarty. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully subm	tted,
Jenna Caulfield, C	nairperson
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