

October 30, 2008 12:25:06

MINUTES
POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Police Commission was called to order at 7:30 P.M. in the Police Department Training Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. Present were Chairman Edward Cosgrove, Commissioners Harvey Goodfriend, Michael Long and Brendan Walsh; Chief Peter Ingvertsen and other interested parties.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Goodfriend read the Summary of Letters received since the last Regular Meeting of the Commission on September 23, 2008. (Addendum 1)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 23, 2008 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Goodfriend made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the September 23, 2008 Regular Meeting as written.

4. PUBLIC AUDIENCE

Chief Ingvertsen introduced Boy Scouts from Troop 76 who were attending the meeting as a requirement for the Citizenship and Community Merit Badge.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Non-Emergency Interagency Agreement Operational Guidelines

Chief Ingvertsen opened discussion on the Non-Emergency Interagency Agreement Operational Guidelines stating that participation in the agreement is still under consideration in the Towns of Simsbury and Canton. The governing bodies of the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Farmington, Granby,

Hartford, Suffield, Windsor and Windsor Locks have already approved the agreement.

Chief Ingvertsen explained the agreement does not provide for pro-active law enforcement activities by officers outside their jurisdiction, but is meant to allow police officers who come upon serious violations such as DUI's to act.

In response to Chairman Cosgrove, Chief Ingvertsen said the Town of East Granby comes under the jurisdiction of State Police, whose jurisdiction already encompasses the entire state and therefore is not participating in the agreement.

In response to Chairman Cosgrove, Chief Ingvertsen said he would discuss possible participation by the town of East Granby with the Non-Emergency Interagency Agreement board.

In response to Chairman Cosgrove, Chief Ingvertsen explained that with respect to item 8 of the Guidelines, procedures for arrests by warrants are standardized throughout the state.

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In response to Commissioner Long, Chief Ingvertsen explained that with respect to item 1 of the Guidelines, the officer outside of his jurisdiction will notify the Police Department of the municipality in which the law enforcement activity takes place.

In response to Commissioner Goodfriend, Chief Ingvertsen explained that each officer's home agency will be responsible for the conduct of their respective officers when acting under the Agreement.

In response to the Commission, Chief Ingvertsen explained that notification of the local agency can take place at any time during the activity and that officers are required to call in any time they engage in any law enforcement activity, primarily for their own safety.

In response to Commissioner Goodfriend, Chief Ingvertsen said that if a Simsbury officer engages in law enforcement activity in another participating town, the Town of Simsbury would be liable for payroll costs related to such activity.

Chief Ingvertsen further explained that without the Agreement, officers witnessing criminal activity have no jurisdiction to intervene; and that under the Agreement officers are obligated to intervene.

In response to Commissioner Goodfriend, Chief Ingvertsen said that he is responsible to ensure that Simsbury police officers abide by the Operational Guidelines and will receive training.

Commissioner Long suggested the following changes to the Guideline language:

Item 6 - ...when witnessing an infraction, officers are encouraged must consider...

Item 6 - 3 - ...Does ignoring the infraction put the public at immediate risk?...

It was the consensus of the Commission that further review and consideration be taken prior to voting to forward the Agreement to the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

Chief Ingvertsen noted that the Agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo.

Commissioners Long and Walsh expressed their concerns that the Guidelines are not referenced in the Agreement itself and therefore non-binding on the participating agencies.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

None.

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7. REPORTS

a. Chairman's Report

None.

b. Chief's Report

Chief Ingvertsen reported the following:

- Written test for Police Officer and Dispatch positions were administered on October 18, 2008.
- 47 applicants participated in the Dispatch testing.
- 125 applicants participated in the Police Officer testing.
- Oral Panel for Dispatch position is scheduled for October 31, 2008. Ten applicants will participate.
- Oral Panel for the Police Officer position is scheduled for November 6 and 7, 2008. Twenty-three applicants will participate, three of whom are certified police officers.
- Probationary Patrol Officers Makowski and Lantiere will complete field training and be out on the road on November 1, 2008.
- Probationary Patrol Officer Trombly is scheduled to graduate the Police Academy on December 3, 2008 and should complete field training in March 2009.
- The Department anticipates having two seats in the Police Academy Class beginning in December 2008.

In response to the Commission, Chief Ingvertsen said that the many benefits of working for the Simsbury Police Department accounts for the large number of applicants.

The Commission reviewed the Expenditure Status Report for FY 08-09 period 3. Chief Ingvertsen noted the overtime budget is negatively impacted by staff shortages.

Commissioner Long stated that any hiring requires prior approval of the Board of Selectmen with the exception of Public Safety.

Chief Ingvertsen reviewed the recent rash of burglaries in the Herman Drive area. In response to Chairman Cosgrove, Chief Ingvertsen said the cases are in the Detective Division and they are in contact with the Town of Granby.

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The Commission reviewed the September 2008 Consolidated Monthly report noting the increase in Animal Calls and Summonses.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Long made a motion seconded by Commissioner Goodfriend and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Edward Cosgrove

/jma

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