

**POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
JULY 11, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Police Commission was called to order by Chairperson Jenna Caulfield at 5:08 P.M. in the Board of Education Conference Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. In attendance were Chairperson Jenna Caulfield, Commissioner Terry Fogarty, Commissioner Travis Schweizer, and Deputy Chief Chris Davis. Absent was Commissioner Tenesha Grant, Commissioner Michael Long, and Chief Boulter.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Schweizer read the summary of letters received since the last meeting of the commission on June 13, 2022.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. After a motion was made by Commissioner Fogarty and seconded by Commissioner Schweizer it was unanimous:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the June 13, 2022 Regular Meeting.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Tecton- the interview process has been completed. We are waiting on next steps for a formal meeting to be set up with the town.

6. REPORTS

a. Chairperson's Report

- i. Chairperson Caulfield read an email from a resident who was also apart of the fire response to a fire call at a residence on Bushy Hill Road. The resident commended the officers with their heroic actions in detail, allowing both residents and their 2 dogs to be rescued safely from the fire. He stated that without the quick actions of the responding officers and dispatcher this would have had a very different outcome.
- ii. On June 20th Senator Blumenthal came to Simsbury and awarded the Simsbury Police Department with a \$70,000 grant.
- iii. Received an email from Joan Coe about adding our meeting attachments online.
- iv. Cadet Program- SRO Brittell informed us that all the cadets will be able to attend the Northeast Regional Law Enforcement Academy (NARLEA) Cadet Academy at the end of July due to donations.
- v. Commissioner Fogarty will be vacating his position at the end of his term.

b. Chief's Report

i. General

- Personnel- we have two officers out on medical leave- both with tentative return dates in the next month or two. There is an additional officer on leave due to an injury sustained while in a foot pursuit with a suspect. Animal Control Officer position is in the background phase. The Accreditation Specialist position had 47

applicants. Working on narrowing the pool down to 8-10 people to go through an oral board.

- Accreditation- We have preliminary feedback on year 1 assessment for our accreditation and received outstanding remarks. This is in a large part due to the work that PFC Tracy Dunn and our Temporary Accreditation Specialist, Christina Deltatto. The formal review will be completed and released to us sometime in August or September.
- Motor Vehicle Thefts- There have been a total of 4 car thefts this calendar year (7 last year at the same time)
- Catalytic Converters- There have been 34 catalytic converter thefts from vehicles since end of August 2021. The last theft was on June 30th, 2022.
- Bear Activity- The Bears have been active this year with 6 reports of bears entering homes/garages in May alone. With each of these reports, the bears gained access through open windows or garage doors. There was another report of a bear entering a chicken coop and killing some of the chickens. Over all this year there have been 65 complaints- 40 have been sightings, 13 in garbage, 1 MV accident (the bear reportedly was unharmed) and 10 entering dwellings.
- Upcoming Events- Simsbury Cadets will be participating in the Northeast Regional Law Enforcement Academy (NARLEA)- Cadet Academy at Westfield State University later this month. From August 1-5 we will be hosting the Junior Police Academy which will be primarily held at the police department.
- Both the Chief and Deputy Chief want to express their appreciation and pride in the police officers and command staff as the department has had an unusually busy few weeks. The outstanding work being performed by all of our SPD personnel on a daily basis has not gone unnoticed and we are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and outstanding SPD personnel.

ii. Consolidated Monthly Report – May 2022

iii. Preliminary Monthly Activity Report – June 2022

7. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Schweizer wanted to pass on appreciation and congratulations to all the police officers and dispatcher involved in the response to the fire on Bushy Hill Road.

8. PRESENTATION- CALEA Accreditation – Deputy Chief Chris Davis

Accreditation is a formalized process in which certification of competency, authority or credibility is presented. Accreditation establishes standards (based on best practices) that ensures quality of services provided. Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) is a non-Profit agency started in 1979 by four organizations, IACP – International Association of Chiefs of Police, NOBLE – National

Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officers, NSA – National Sheriffs Association, and PERF – Police Executive Research Forum. CALEA standards consist of policies and procedures (based on law enforcement best practices) designed to ensure a police agency is consistent with current trends in law enforcement. There are (2) tiers of Accreditation- Tier (1) agencies need to be in compliance with 181 standards and Tier (2) agencies need to be in compliance with 459 standards. The Simsbury Police Department has been Tier 2 accredited since 2011. Nationally, there are 704 local agencies and here in Connecticut, there are 22 agencies that are CALEA accredited. Accreditation benefits the department by increasing preparedness for critical incidents, increased training, enhanced community relationship and fostering of public trust, through demonstration of knowledge and expertise, management decisions are made based on more up-to-date information, assists in lawsuits by demonstrating that SPD is a professional agency that utilizes best practices in law enforcement, equipment upgrades, and increased access to grants and training opportunities. Assessors will review 25% of our policies every year during the accreditation cycle (conducted remotely) and then during the 4th year, they will conduct an "on-site" assessment, where they actually come to the police department to conduct interviews with stakeholders as well as inspecting the physical facility.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fogarty made a motion to adjourn at 5:41 P.M., seconded by Commissioner Schweizer. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenna Caulfield', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Jenna Caulfield, Chairperson

/jw