POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
21 JUNE 2016

CTO

Chairman Don Sauvigne called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. In attendance were Commissioner David Waters, Commissioner Matt Mason, Chief Robert Crosby, Captain John Lynch, Captain Thomas Conlan, former Commissioner Chris Weldon, Kelly Weldon and Heather Herve (Good Morning Wilton).

A motion was made by Chairman Sauvigne and Seconded by Commissioner Mason to scramble the agenda. Motion passed 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation to Former Chairman/Commissioner Christopher Weldon

The Commission presented former Chairman/Commissioner Chris Weldon with his retired Commissioner badge and expressed thanks on behalf of the Department, the Commission and the Town for his ten years of service on the Commission.

MINUTES

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2016 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY REPORTS

Monthly reports were reviewed and discussed. The Commissioners were pleased with the number of MV Stops in the prior month, which reflected consistent high exposure and monitoring on the roadways.

The Activity Report for May was reviewed. The Commission noted a significant number of motor vehicle accidents, and a high level of narcotics investigations. The number of narcotics investigations is directly related to the increased number of motor vehicle stops.
The Commission noted that again this month a high number of pistol permits was being processed, which is the result of concerns that gun rights may be limited in the future.

The MAC Report for May was reviewed. Chief Crosby noted that the Department is waiting for the full complement of officers in order to fill the MAC position, being cognizant of overtime costs. The “Coffee with a Cop” event on June 3, 2016 at Dunkin’ Donuts was an outstanding success, with a very receptive and supportive public interaction. The event will probably be repeated periodically, perhaps every six months, at varied locations and on varied days of the week. It was suggested that a weekend day would permit school age children to participate. The Special Olympics Torch Run was performed in conjunction with Ridgefield and had a very good showing.

The SRO Report for May was reviewed. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the report. The SROs were quite busy with end of the school year activities, but they will be able to fill in as needed over the summer while school is not in session.

The Overtime Report for May was reviewed. The Commission noted that the number of hours in the reporting period was acceptable, but Chief Crosby noted that June would probably be higher because officers must either use or lose any accrued vacation time prior to July 1. However, because of SEU reimbursement the Department should be able to remain within budget.

The Accreditation Report for May was reviewed. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the progress being made and the reporting.

The K9 Report for May was reviewed. K9 Enzo is on light duty due to his leg issues, and the process has been started for fundraising to acquire a new K9. Town Counsel will review the documentation of this process. The timetable for acquiring a new K9 is to be determined, based on fundraising, the time needed for selection and training.

**REPORT OF CHIEF CROSBY**

Letters of thanks and jobs well done and other miscellaneous matters were reviewed.

**Letters:**

- Thank you letter from Chief Crosby to Laura Rowley (President, Middlebrook School PTA) for sandwiches, salads and cookies that were delivered to the Department
- Thank you letter to the Department from Jennifer Longmire of the Zion’s Hill Preschool Program for supporting their Spring Fling fundraiser
- Email to Chief Crosby from Josephine Varian praising Detective Kip Tarrant for his kindness and assistance
- Letter of praise to Officer Melissa Mason for assistance from Lea Pelletiere
- Thank you letter to the Klancio Family for Girl Scout cookies and their card expressing gratitude for all the Department does
Complementary email about Officer Elise Smith from Assistant State’s Attorney Vieux to Captain Conlan, along with Captain Conlan’s and Chief Crosby’s emails to Officer Smith

Email from Lt. Rob Cipolla to the officers for their participation in the “Coffee with a Cop” event: Officers Anna Tornello, Shawn Frendt, Rob Smaldone, Tim Fridinger, Mike Tyler, Joe Calorossi, Det. Eva Zimnoch, Sgt. Stephen Sisenstein and Lt. Rob Cipolla

Thank you letter from Chief Crosby to Tim Egan (WHS Baseball Coach) for trays of food brought to the Department.

Donations to the Wilton Police Fund:

- None

Donations (Other):

- None

Miscellaneous:

- MADD Awards to Officer Mark Canepari and Officer Anna Tornello

Chief Crosby noted that the MADD Awards are given for the diligent efforts of officers to eliminate impaired driving. The email with respect to Officer Elise Smith’s efforts was highly unusual, because not only the State’s Attorney complimented her on her work but the defense attorney representing the defendant in the case also had taken the unusual step of doing so. Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Claire Furano, the Department’s long time administrative assistant, would be retiring which will leave a significant place to fill and a person that will be sorely missed.

Chief Crosby informed the Commission that some officers are now wearing body cameras but that they are still trying to make them more automated. There have been some issues in downloading but now there are new docking stations to resolve those issues.

The Town’s facilities manager is investigating whether the range can be updated to bring it up to Code. A Building Committee should be formed shortly in anticipation of planning for new Department facilities.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Dispatch

Chairman Sauvigne reported that a process is being developed with the Fire Department to enhance the communications between the two departments without requiring the respective commissions or chiefs to be involved.
NEW BUSINESS

B. Officer Canepari Release from New Hire Probation Effective 6/29/16

Chief Crosby informed the Commission that Officer Mark Canepari will complete the minimum probationary period as a new-hire officer of the Department on June 29, 2016, and recommended that the Commission remove him from new-hire probationary status as of that date. Commissioner Waters made a motion to remove Officer Canepari from new-hire probationary status effective June 29, 2016 provided no intervening negative issues arise. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mason. Motion carried 3-0.

C. Traffic Survey Discussion – 155 Whipstick Road

The Commission reviewed and accepted the analysis prepared by the Department of the traffic conditions at 155 Whipstick Road. Commissioner Sauvigne made a motion to authorize installation of a “hidden drive” sign in the location recommended by the Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried 3-0.

D. Discussion on State Traffic Investigation Report – Route 7 and Pimpewaug Road Intersection

The commission reviewed the State Traffic Investigation Report with respect to a potential traffic signal at the intersection of Route 7 and Pimpewaug Road. Commissioner Waters made a motion to authorize Chief Crosby to concur with the recommendations made by the State DOT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sauvigne. Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

There were no reports of the Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:05 p.m., the meeting went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. At 8:27 p.m., the Commission came out of Executive Session. No action was taken in the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Waters seconded by Commissioner Mason and passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

David F. Waters, Acting Recording Secretary