

Suffield Police Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Feb 18, 2009

The regular meeting of the Suffield Police Commission was held on Wednesday, Feb 18, 2009 at Suffield Police Headquarters, 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, Ct.

Present were: Chairman Don Miner, Commissioners Jack Quinn, Linda Stevenson, Matt Joyal, John Zavisza and Peter Hill. Also present were Chief Michael Manzi, Capt. David Bourque, and Recording Secretary Karen McKown. Officer Osowiecki was in attendance for a short time.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Miner.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Miner read the following:

- A note from Suffield Fire Chief Tom Bellmore to Chief Manzi complementing Officer Justin Nelson for his action at a medical emergency at the Chief's house.
- A note from Karen Gidman, 1812 Spruce St, thanking Officer Osowiecki for his actions at a medical emergency at her home.
- An agenda from the Police Commissioners Association of Ct.
- A note to Capt. Bourque from Sgt. Michael Fisher, Wethersfield, P.D. thanking him for allowing Officer Antrum and Sgt. Brown to participate in the Police Explorer Academy.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS:

Mr. Quinn motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Hill, and approved by all.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Mr. Quinn motioned to accept all the department reports as presented, barring any questions the commissioners might have. Mr. Hill seconded.

Finance

Capt. Bourque distributed a sheet showing line item balances, from the department internal reporting system. He pointed out that the vehicle R&M lines is over-spent, due to early F.Y. cruiser accidents, plus oil changes and routine maintenance being done by other than the Highway Department.

Activity

The Captain pointed out that department arrests are up. Officers have been very proactive, resulting in an increase in D.W.I. arrests.

K-9

Officer Osowiecki stated K-9 Phil has been busy and K-9 Z has completed some phases of training and will be beginning narcotics detection training in the spring. Discussion was held regarding the storage of items, and use of Bridge Street School for K-9 training.

D.B.

No report as Detective Sargent remains on short term disability. Sgt. Brown who is covering the D.B. is getting a lot accomplished.

Evaluations

No problems with either Officers Justin Fuller or Justin Nelson. Both officers are on the midnight shift.

Capt. Bourque reported that I.M.C, our in-house records program and the A.F.I.S. integration will be completed on 2/24.

A vote was taken on the department reports. The motion carried unanimously

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Manzi stated his report emphasized officer's accomplishments over the past month.

- Officer Burrell responded to two suicides.
- Sgt. VanTasel delivered a pre-mature baby and was surprised with a commendation letter during a training assembly.
- Capt. Bourque presented the proposed budget and the Chief said he did an excellent job, leaving no major concerns.
- Officer Chevalier recovered a \$6,000 diamond ring before it was delivered to a fraudulent purchaser.
- Officers Kieselback and DePietro spent time with an emotionally distraught student at the Hilltop campus.
- Officer Osowiecki's well received R.A.D. class.
- Officers Dabkowski and Trovato's C.P.R. save of a 38 year old cardiac patient, using the new defibrillators provided through Geoff Miner's Eagle Scout program.
- Officer Osowiecki's quick response and reassuring assistance at a medical call.

The Chief also touched on the subject of stolen handguns, the increase in crime and number of American's killed while vacationing abroad. He also spoke about a late night motor vehicle stop that nearly turned into a custodial arrest due to the vehicle operator's lack of cooperation.

The Chief elaborated on the stolen firearms mentioned above. The guns went missing somewhere in transit to Smith & Wesson and although this is rare occurrence, it is not unheard of. The larceny did not occur in Suffield.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CHAIRMAN COMMENT –

Mr. Miner stated he has been observing cruiser mileage which is up significantly. Capt. Bourque presented a graph “Summary of Vehicles”. The graph shows odometer readings at the current year, taken out to the year 2011. The graph shows that by 2/1/10, at least 7 vehicles will have 94,000 or more miles on them. The graph clearly shows that the purchase of 2 new cruisers is imperative. This lead to discussion of raising the cost of cruiser-per-hour use for outside jobs from \$10.00/hr to ????. The Commission asked the Chief to find out what other departments charge for cruiser use.

Capt. Bourque said the finance director locked gasoline in at \$1.50/gal (without taxes) until Jan, 2010.

The Captain reported that a presentation to A.C.C.E. for a three-step radio upgrade was seemed to be well received by them.

Mr. Miner said the Police Commission is set to go before the Board of Finance on March 23. There will be one more Commission meeting prior to that date.

At 8:10 p.m., Mr. Quinn motioned to add to the agenda, an executive session to discuss a new personnel issue. Ms. Stevenson seconded the motion which carried unanimously. At 8:10, Mr. Quinn motioned to go into executive session for the reason stated above, seconded by Mr. Hill, and passing with unanimous approval. Chief Manzi and Capt. Bourque were asked to attend the executive session.

At 8:38 p.m., the Commission returned to regular session. **Mr. Quinn then motioned to adjourn** seconded by Mr. Hill and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McKown,

Donald Miner Chairman

Recording Secretary