

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2011
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman R. Newton, First Selectman J. Flanders, A. Varricchio,
A. Halibozek, A. Waters, P. Ahlquist

Absent: A. Spotts

Also Present: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Captain E. Kosinski, Labor Attorney K.
Weinstock, Public and Press

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Newton added E.1, Discussion and possible action to appoint Police Officer.

Motion made by J. Flanders seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve the agenda as amended.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. M. Terry, Main Street, Letter attached to Minutes.
2. M. Johnson, Pleasant Street, Spoke about a bill was proposed regarding Exit 19 off of Route 9.

D. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, February 9, 2011

Motion made by J. Flanders seconded by A Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of February 9, 2011.

E. CHIEF SALVATORE'S REPORT

The Monthly Incident Report was distributed for February.

Chairman Newton asked the Chief to pass Mrs. Terry's comments on to this staff. Chief Salvatore reported:

- Recruit Tyler Meusel started the Academy last week.
- A Juvenile Sexual Assault occurred on February 25th at approximately 1:30 in the afternoon. As a result of a 911 call Officers were dispatched to a specific location in town and as a result of their actions they were able to make an apprehension of the individual that was involved. Chief Salvatore gave commendations to Dispatcher Brucia who did a outstanding job of getting sufficient information and also to the Officers

involved; Officers Dorias, Cunningham, Penn. and Sgt Mantel. Captain Kosinski was also involved with the investigation.

- Additional traffic enforcement will be done within resources of the department as well with the cooperation of Mid-State Enforcement Team.

A. Halibozek thanked Chief Salvatore, Sgt. Det. LaMontagne and Det. Vandersloot for the very thorough investigation report related to the Senator Drive Investigation. Ms. Halibozek believes that they came to the right conclusion and Chief Salvatore was right behind that. The Board will address from their position what they need to do, as recommended by State Attorney Liston. There were no charges brought forward; he did recommend that the town needs to address this and they will do what they need to do, maybe not tonight but in the near future.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Grievance –IBPO #357 –Second Step -Tabled

a. Possible action

Motion made by A. Halibozek seconded by A Waters and *unanimously carried* to remove from the table.

Chairman Newton asked Sgt. Mantel if he had anything further to add to last month's statement. Sgt. Mantel deferred to Town Attorney K. Weinstock. Attorney Weinstock stated that he listened to the tape of last month's meeting and offered arguments on why the grievance should be denied. Some of his points follow:

1. The Union does not have a grievance at all because the grievance procedure in the contract was not followed. Attached to minutes (Article 14 & Section 8). A police employee with the exact same situation received a step in October 2010. The employee didn't grieve; the union didn't grieve.
2. The Arbitration Panel chose the Town's proposed collective bargaining agreement and supporting cost data; a copy was provided to the union. The grid on the last page provides the cost data that supports the town's proposal. It outlines the town's best offer and outlines the steps and increases. (Copy attached to minutes).
3. This language was never bargained for; it was awarded by the Arbitration Panel; this language was imposed on both the parties. It was the town's language that was awarded; the union has no ability to actually interpret the meaning of the language.

Attorney Weinstock's presentation continued, in closing he urged the commission to deny the grievance.

A. Halibozek asked how the arbitration award was communicated back to the union. Mr. Weinstock stated that the union received a copy of the contract that he prepared according to what the arbitrations awarded.

Regarding to #1., P. Ahlquist stated that the employee that received his step in October was a probationary employee and perhaps didn't understand the contract. In regarding to Officer McCarter if you go to the page in the contract it is based on years of service. K. Weinstock stated that the contract needs to be read in its entirety; it can't be cherry-picked.

Sgt. Mantel stated that he was never informed by the probationary officer that he only received one step.

Union representatives [Scott Jelescheff](#) and Douglas Hall recapped their statements that were made at the previous meeting.

Motion made by A. Halibozek seconded by J. Flanders and *carried* to deny.

Aye: A. Halibozek, A. Varricchio, J. Flanders, R. Newton, A. Waters

Nay: P. Ahlquist

Motion to deny carried

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and possible action to appoint a Police Officer.

Chief Salvatore advised the commission that they have a candidate that is the finishing stages of acceptance. The next academy starts on April 15th if they miss this date they would have to wait until next August. The Chief asked the commission's permission to bring the candidate on around April 1st.

A. Waters inquired which officer this position would be replacing. Chief Salvatore replied that this individual would be taking Officer Chase's place.

P. Ahlquist spoke about the possibility of the academy charging the towns in the future.

A. Halibozek asked how many years of the grant remain. Chief Salvatore replied approximately two years.

Motion made by A. Halibozek seconded by A Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve appointment of an officer; name to be determined at a later date.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by J. Flanders seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary