

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2006
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman R. Newton, First Selectman P. Beaulieu, A. Waters,
S. Stachura, M. Johnson, S. Salvatore, F. Monnes

Absent:

Also Present: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Captain R. Nelson, Public and Press

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no changes or additions the agenda stands approved as posted.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Al Spotts, Black Haw Drive, Chairman Riverport Festival –Publicly thanked Chief Salvatore, the Police Department and Lori McKnight for all the assistance they provided over the years to him as Chairman of the Riverport Festival.
2. Marvin Selsky, Willowbrook Road, - thanked a Cromwell Police Officer, (Officer Cunningham) for responding to a complaint that Mr. Selsky made in a courteous and efficient manner.
3. Bob Jahn, Woodside Road –comments referred to Public Safety on Woodside Road and the areas that surround the four schools in Cromwell. Report attached to minutes.
4. Helen Zalewski Street-spoke about the traffic and speeders on Geer Street and several other matters of concern.

D. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, September 13, 2006

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes.

E. CHIEF SALVATORE'S REPORT

The incident Analysis's Report was handed out for September in addition to a report from Captain Nelson on this year's DUI Grant and the activity of the officers. An article that appeared in the Hartford Courant regarding the difficulty that law enforcement is having hiring new personnel was also in the packet. Chief Salvatore believes that they are in the beginning of a tidal wave with the amount of problems that they are going to see coming down the road with regards to trying to find

qualified people to fill open positions. This problem is not only statewide but also national.

Chief Salvatore reported the following:

- In response to Mr. Jahn's comments, Chief Salvatore will look into them. Speed Limits are approved, upon recommendation of the Local Traffic Authority (Chief Salvatore), by the State Traffic Commission. A lot of what Mr. Jahn is looking for is not permitted.
- As Ms. Zalewski acknowledged, Officers were doing speed checks on Geer Street for a couple of days, several warnings and two citations were given for various reasons. Unfortunately one of the citations for speeding was given to a resident of Geer Street.
- Personnel; the Department just hired the sixth dispatcher; Officer Dorias is still in the FTO program. Tomorrow the agility test will be given for the twenty-fifth sworn officer.
- This afternoon, there was a bank robbery at the Citizen's Bank on Route 3. It is presently under investigation. They are asking, if anyone has any information regarding the robbery to call the Police Station.
- Chief Salvatore is concerned about what is happening across the country in regard to School Violence. In conjunction with the School District, several individuals that include, Captain Nelson and Officer Mantel are in the process of developing a lesson plan of how to address School Violence. Chief Salvatore advised the commission that the world of training is changing. Previously officers were trained to wait; they are now being taught that a squad that consists of two, three or four persons go in and address the problem. Chief Salvatore hopes that this never happens in Cromwell but wanted to bring it to the Commission's attention that they are pro-actively working on developing a School Violence program strategy. In conjunction with the SRO they are looking into school security as well. Chief Salvatore acknowledged Officer Mantel, the departments Fire-arm Training Officer, for developing the training program, mostly on his own time.
- A number of signs were vandalized, hundreds of dollars worth. Chief Salvatore contacted the Public Works Department and requested that the signs be cleaned or replaced. Many of the signs will need to be replaced because of the reflective coating.
- Officers will hand out glow sticks that can be attached to costumes, for children's safety, on Halloween night. Chief Salvatore acknowledged Lori McKnight and Dispatcher Bruscia, who were instrumental in developing the special program.
- As requested last month, Chief Salvatore handed out a map that detailed the number and location of parking spaces around the new Fire House and the Police Station.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None

G. NEW BUSINESS

None

H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary