

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 12, 2007
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman R. Newton, First Selectman J. Shingleton, A. Waters, F. Monnes,
D. Murphy, R. Waters, M. Johnson

Members present:

Also present: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Public and Press

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Since there were no additions or changes the agenda stands approved as posted.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Peter Keithan, Iron Gate Lane –Inquired about a telemarketing call that he received on behalf of the Cromwell Police Department. Chairman Newton stated that he received the telemarketing phone call as well and stated that it has nothing to do with the Cromwell Police Department per say.

D. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting October 10, 2007

Motion made by F. Monnes seconded by A. Waters and *carried* to approve the minutes of October 10, 2007.

Aye: A. Waters, F. Monnes, M. Johnson, R. Newton

D. Murphy abstained because he was not on the Commission at the time of the October Meeting.

(R. Waters and J. Shingleton were not on the Commission at the time of the October Meeting.)

R. Waters referred to Mr. Coughlin's request at the October Meeting for the Commission to request a monthly report that counts, categorizes and states the resolution of all crimes committed. Mr. Waters stated that once a case is completed it is filed away and felt that the report should be submitted to the Police Commission, of resolved crimes, on a Monthly basis.

E. CHIEF SALVATORE'S REPORT

The monthly statistics were distributed for the months of October and November.

- Chief Salvatore responded regarding the telemarketing calls and advised the Commission that it is the Cromwell Police Benevolent Association that has been conducting a fundraiser the Town of Cromwell or the Police Department

does not control it. If this in fact the telemarketer that you have been complaining about including the Cromwell Fire Department.

- Chief Salvatore reported that the present software that the Department uses isn't capable of providing the tracking that is being requested.
- The Cromwell Police Department came in number one statewide, for the 2006 Connecticut Law Enforcement Challenge for category 2, Municipal Police Departments. The Connecticut Police Chief's Association and the DOT, Highway Safety Division sponsors the event. Most of the credit goes to the men and women of the Department specifically Sgt. Wren. The department received a radar set for coming in first place.
- The Department's annual Food Drive will take place this Saturday at Stop and Shop from 10:00 until 2 p.m. Santa's Run, which is done in conjunction with the Cromwell Fire Department, will take place later in the afternoon. Over \$6,000 was collected for the Santa's Run and Adopt a Family Program.
- Recently Chief Salvatore attended a conference and expo and found portable radar units that can be mounted on telephone poles. The units flash the speed and collect data of the speed and time of day of the passing vehicles. Chief Salvatore thought that they might be a good solution to answer the concerns of the former Board of Selectmen on Geer Street. Two units are coming with additional mounting brackets and will be used primarily to monitor traffic conditions on Geer Street.
- The Cromwell Fire Department is hosting the Connecticut State Firefighters Convention and Parade September 19th through the 21st. Main Street will be shut down for the parade on the 21st. Chief Salvatore stated that he is planning on adding the cost of shutting down Main Street to his budget with the permission of the First Selectman. The Riverport Festival is scheduled for the same weekend.
- The Captain has been out on Medical Leave for several weeks and is expected to be out several more weeks. One Officer is on extended leave of absence as a result of a situation with family. The Officer in the Academy continues to do very well. The Department is down one dispatcher.

A. Waters asked how high the Radar signs would be posted and brought up the fact they may be vandalized.

D. Murphy said the fact was brought out at the last Board of Education that Cromwell doesn't have any School Zones. Chief Salvatore stated that he doesn't feel that School Zones are necessary because of the speed limits currently posted.

R. Waters stated that he has a problem with people using cell phones while they are driving. He sees a lot of it in Cromwell as well as people making left turns on red lights without stopping. Chief Salvatore stated that he would pass the concerns on to the officers. Mr. Waters also stated that he has received complaints from people that call him because Cromwell Officers aren't friendly and don't wave back at people who wave to them. Chief Salvatore responded that he sees them waving all the time and receives a lot of calls and letters praising them for their friendliness. A few months ago, Mr. Waters had requested a complete inventory of the Police Department for last year and this year. Chief

Salvatore responded that he doesn't have an Inventory. Mr. Waters stated that he is suppose to do one every year just like every other department does. First Selectman Shingleton stated that he would look into the matter. Mr. Waters wondered why the break ins in the vicinity of River Highlands and Field Road weren't publicized so the residents in the area would be aware and take precautions. Chief Salvatore responded that he believed that the information was sent to the press.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorization for Dispatcher Position.

Discussion followed. R. Waters stated that the board should meet all new employees before they are hired. First Selectman Shingleton asked if he would be more comfortable if either he or Mr. Newton meet them. Chairman Newton suggested that the First Selectman meet with the new employee. A. Waters agreed with R. Waters and felt that they should meet new employees especially police officers and dispatchers.

Motion made by D. Murphy seconded by F. Monnes and *carried* to authorize the hiring of an unnamed person to fill the Police Dispatcher position and then at the next Police Commission Meeting they will come back with the name of the person that was hired.

Aye: A. Waters, J. Shingleton, F. Monnes, D. Murphy, M. Johnson

Nay: R. Waters

Motion carried

H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary

