

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 8, 2007
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman R. Newton, First Selectman P. Beaulieu, A. Waters, S. Stachura,
M. Johnson (arrived at 7:05), S. Salvatore, F. Monnes

Absent:

Also Present: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Director of Finance M. Sylvester, 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. R. Cassella, Main Street –Spoke regarding an incident that occurred, which involved a police officer passing a stopped school bus, for which the officer was disciplined. Ms. Cassella feels that in addition to being disciplined, the Officer owes her son an apology. Ms. Cassella also feels that Chief Salvatore owes her an apology for his behavior when she went to talk to him about the incident.
2. H. Zaleski, Geer Street-Inquired why a cruiser was parked at the school behind her house between 5 and 6 a.m.? Also inquired why cops are able to talk on cell phones while driving?

D. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting July 11, 2007

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by F. Monnes and *carried* to approve the Regular July 11, 2007 minutes.

Aye: A. Waters, P. Beaulieu, S. Stachura, F. Monnes

Abstained: S. Salvatore

(M. Johnson was not present to vote)

E. CHIEF SALVATORE'S REPORT

The July Incident Analyst Report was distributed to the Commission.

Chairman Newton asked if Chief Salvatore wished to respond to some or all of the questions or statements made during Citizen's Comments.

1. When Ms. Zaleski observed the Officer parking in the School Parking lot, the Officer could have been doing reports.

2. There is a Law Enforcement exception to talking on cell phones, however the SOP only permits it in the interest of police work.
 3. Chief Salvatore apologized to Ms. Cassella for the mistake in using the incorrect first name in the letter that he sent to her.
 4. Chief Salvatore advised that when Ms. Cassella went to speak to him about the incident, he explained to her in front of staff, that they had procedures to follow in accordance with the contract and their SOP for Civilian Complaints. Unfortunately Ms. Cassella wasn't happy with the explanation and became quite loud and boisterous and exited the Chief's Office. Chief Salvatore stated that the matter was investigated and a letter was sent to Ms. Cassella as he promised he would. Chief Salvatore stated that appropriation action was taken. The Officer also received training. Chief Salvatore stated that as far as he is concerned the matter is closed.
 5. Chief Salvatore responded to Mr. Jahn's comments that were made at the previous Police Commission Meeting claiming that he never got a reply regarding Geer Street, Woodside Road and Evergreen Road. Chief Salvatore reported that he had a Sergeant submit a report regarding the situation and then he personally went to take a look. As a result, they had the Public Works Department move some traffic signs. Additionally, after a review by the State Traffic Commission they raised the speed limit on a small portion of Evergreen Road from 25 miles to 30 miles per hour. The STC agreed that the speed limits are adequate on the remainder of the roads; 25 miles on Geer Street, 30 miles on Woodside, 25 miles on Court Street and 30 miles on Evergreen Road. According to Captain Nelson he had conveyed this information to Mr. Jahn.
- Chief Salvatore advised that Sgt. Ahlquist would retire on November 1, 2007.
 - The testing process has begun for an Officer and a Sergeant.
 - Officer Bialko is doing very well in the FTO Program and will be shadowed the next two weeks by a Veteran Police Officer.
 - Animal Control Officer Gagnon recently attended "Bear Training Classes". Chief Salvatore feels that the information she obtained will be valuable.
(*M. Johnson arrived at 7:05*)
 - The department is preparing for the Riverport Festival. Chief Salvatore is anticipating a successful Festival this year.
 - The Department participated in a Pandemic Flu Exercise recently. Chief Salvatore was happy to report that Cromwell's Emergency Operations Coordinator F. Curtin exceeded all expectations. Cromwell had all the necessary materials and the event was very well organized.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve appointment of Full-time Dispatcher.
 - a. Frank Pascuccio Jr.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to appoint Frank Pascuccio Jr., as a full time dispatcher.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. GOOD AND WELFARE

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by P. Beaulieu seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary