

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES
REGULAR MEETING – July 14, 2016
COMMUNITY / TRAINING ROOM – 5:30 PM**

Attendees: Chairman Eric Thornburg; Vice Chairman Ed Dowling; Commissioner Marietta Lee; Commissioner Thom Cartledge; Commissioner Kathi Traugh

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Board of Selectmen Liaison; Al Goldberg; Capt. Joe Race; Town Engineer Mike Ott; Lt. Richard Perron

Absent: Board of Finance Liaison Joe MacDougald

CALL TO ORDER

Opening and Call to Order at 5:30 PM by Chairman Thornburg followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES

MOTION by Traugh, second Cartledge by to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2016 and the Special Meeting of June 9, 2016. Commissioner Traugh made one edit to a name as written. All in favor. None opposed. So moved

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CHIEF'S REPORT

- **Budget / Financial:** Chairman Thornburg thanked Chief Drumm for attending the meeting although this was a scheduled vacation week. Chief reported he returned \$29,768 (roughly 1% of a \$3.2MM budget) to the town at the end of the 2015-16 fiscal year. There was a special appropriation of \$65,000 to replenish the OT Special Duty Account. Not accounted for is the contractual cashing in of remaining unused vacation days. Mr. Goldberg stated that return statistic shows pretty good budgeting and he salutes the Chief and the Board of Police Commissioners.
- **Activity / Statistics:** 114 Alarms, 63 of which were Burglary; 22 were 911 calls; 41 Suspicious Vehicles; 20 Suspicious Persons; 122 Criminal Investigations with 31 In-custody Arrests; 5 Involuntary Commitments; 29 Animal Nuisance complaints; 0 Animal Bites; 4 Juvenile Missing; 1 Juvenile Alcohol; 0 Juvenile Narcotics-related; 17 Juvenile Investigations; 28 Fingerprint requests; 125 R-1 First Responder calls (first on scene); requests continue for pistol permits.

Some door to door vendors may not be registered; they should have a police issued photo ID. If vendors share their IDs we revoke the permits. We have had 2 Narcan calls; other communities are getting slammed. Clinton has had a few.

If you see something suspicious, call the Police Department; that's how we catch criminals.

- **Training / June:** Capt. Race reviewed the training report for June; there was not a lot of formal training. Wrapped up recertification for 7 officers on a 3-year cycle; 11-12 officers will need to be recertified next year. COLLECT recertification includes civilians, dispatchers and officers. Training included SWAT; monthly K-9; and Roll Call training on our holding facility which is a CALEA requirement.

Lt. Perron and Capt. Race are at Command Officer Training which is classroom based with group projects. Networking potential is phenomenal. Capt. Race said each participant can choose their topic on a study based on something within our individual departments. He chose how to implement a wellness program and its practicality; Lt. Perron said he reported on patrol shifts, the number of officers/shift as related to both Calls for Service and within rotating shifts. Compared all possibilities and what benefits us best.

Chief Drumm spoke to July holiday traffic and that it was the largest crowd he has seen at the fireworks. Hammonasset Beach was at capacity early in the day; people parked wherever they could. The Surf Club was at capacity by 3 PM. Once the fireworks end, moving people out is a task; streets are not lit and there are a lot of pedestrians. Side streets off Liberty, Seaview, and Webster Point were all at capacity; officers kept streets open and notified people on Middle Beach about parking restrictions - the people complied. There was one serious assault; multiple cases of over imbibing. The department had 25 officers plus the Chief working the fireworks. Perhaps other parking areas (DHHS) can be used in the future. All the officers involved did a very good job. A lot of people expressed their appreciation as they were leaving.

Al Goldberg asked the Chief if he feels some events are too big for Madison. The Chief said the capacity for cars in some areas of town is problematic; if we fine tune how we have people access beaches we'll be fine. One of the biggest concerns is moving in ambulances, fire trucks, etc. if needed. Chairman Thornburg added, with all the officers working we are at maximum for enforcement. Capt. Race said every officer we had worked that weekend. Mr. Goldberg asked if it is important to have each event on a separate day. Chief said it is convenient when on a weekend; concert is not that much of impact. Separating fireworks and the parade is easier for scheduling; prefers a break; EMS has the same challenges. Commissioner Traugh asked if parking is provided in remote locations (high school for example) would we need more assistance. Chief said we only call on mutual partners for marine aid; we will reciprocate with them in August for their fireworks. We have plans in place with mutual partnership agencies; need trained officers in place to handle the crowds.

The Chief reported people have called to thank us for our service; lots of people have reached out to us based on Dallas events. Hammonasset Ford would like to run a live TV promotion. He was approached by Madison Beach Hotel to have an officer on stage before they start an event. Chairman Thornburg thinks it is good the businesses reached out to us so we are not perceived to be endorsing anyone. Commissioner Lee asked if, during the shooting of a commercial, are officers on or off duty? Off duty would be preferable. Chief will discuss this with town counsel.

TRAFFIC UPDATES: Town Engineer Mike Ott

Chief Drumm said we are waiting for a final decision from the state regarding the Oakwood Park left turn only signal. We have bicycle signs for the sidewalks. Mr. Ott said he has ordered 16 "No Bicycle Riding or Skateboarding on Sidewalks" signs. We have an ordinance covering bicycling, not skateboarding. There will be other ordinance revisions to include skateboards. Signs will be on the back of 3 hour parking signs. Especially at Willoboughy's where the sidewalk is narrow. A-frames are there as a temporary solution and the Chamber of Commerce sent a flyer to businesses for their windows.

Commissioner Cartledge asked about the status of the Webster Point road signs. Mr. Ott has located where they go and has placed the order; it should be no more than 1 week.

Chief Drumm asked about the signage for the curve at the Beach Club regarding a second arrow. Mr. Ott said signage is in place. There is a minor issue if the yellow diamond or curve should be at a right angle. Mr. Ott said it needs to be discussed further.

Mr. Ott said the length of Green Hill is paved; downtown median will be planted today and tomorrow and construction will stop until after Labor Day. The current signage regarding construction will be covered in plastic rather than removed. Chairman Thornburg noted there is a lot of positive feedback on traffic management, especially with regard to traffic controller Derek Johnson from Waterbury.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Current Issues:

NEW BUSINESS: DONATIONS

- Donation: Lucinda Thomas Embersits (\$200)
- Donation: Avis Simmons (\$50)
- Donation: Cole Brinn (\$20)

Christie Hodge highlighted the donations. Mrs. Embersits thanked officers Martin and French for the return of her pocketbook which was lost along Warpas Road. Mrs. Simmons thanked Officer French for his role in comforting her while firemen were taking care of a fire at her home. Cole Brinn, a 7-year old from North Madison, raised \$20 by selling water balloons in front of his home with the sole purpose of donating the money to the police.

MOTION by Dowling, second by Cartledge to accept the generous donations and offered their thanks to each of the donors. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Update: Communications 911 Center

Chief Drumm made a presentation to the Board of Selectmen and brought the chairman of the Board of Finance up to date regarding the Communications 911 Center. They are currently in Phase 2; money has been appropriated. The Board of Selectmen voted to a lease/purchase with Motorola. Construction was approved; Chief Drumm will meet with the Board of Selectmen on July 20th. There are some zoning issues; need a letter to the CT Water Company for abutting property and need responses from the public concerning replacing the existing tower. Once approvals are in place by the ZBA, within the next 30 days field engineers will come out. Chairman Thornburg asked how the integration is with

the fire departments, EMS, dispatch, etc. Chief said it is going very well and if there are any small issues they will be rectified.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Traugh said after the Dallas tragedy how much she appreciates our department and the tremendous job it does serving the community. She is glad to hear that citizens have shown their appreciation to our officers. She is struck by the emphasis on training which has made a leadership difference here. Thank you for your service.

Commissioner Cartledge has received a number of phone calls and people have come to his house asking that the next time he is with officers and the Chief to say thank you for the job they continue to do.

Commissioner Lee echoed Commissioner Traugh's comments, noting how Madison's great citizens have reached out to the police department with thanks and gratitude. Thank you for all you do.

Commissioner Dowling said he and his fellow commissioners have reflected this past week on what is referred to as the Thin Blue Line; this is a time of serious and angry dialogue about law enforcement. He thinks it is a limited role of the Police Commission to oversee actions of 30 officers. What resonates and what the Chief has brought is a serious effort to connect and integrate with the community. This speaks to the actions, motivation and character of our officers, their training and leadership. We need to continue to have this serious discussion with officers – they do not know what they may face on a particular day. We don't take our responsibilities and challenges lightly. He commended the action taken and the leadership training. It speaks to what we all hope and expect. Commends what has been said – reinforces the chief and officers to keep up the good work and the steady course. There are more challenges down the road.

Chairman Thornburg concluded, he is very proud of each and every one of our officers. We fought for the training in our early year's budgets. He asks our officers to challenge the Board of Police Commissioners if there is something we can do to help.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS:

MOTION by Dowling, second by Traugh to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:20 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. Dowling/Traugh

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:20 PM

Present: Chairman Thornburg, Commissioners Cartledge, Lee; Traugh

Also Present: Chief Drumm; Mr. Goldberg

Discussed: Capt. Race's contract details were discussed: term, benefits, termination provisions, renewal provisions, etc.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

Return to Open Session at 6:40 adjourn.

MOTION by Lee, second by Cartledge to adjourn at 6:40 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Minutes accepted: August 11, 2016