

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
5:30 PM  
COMMUNITY TRAINING ROOM-MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
July 14, 2022  
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

Attendees: Chairman Ed Dowling; Vice-Chairman Marietta Lee; Commissioner Thom Cartledge; Commissioner Ann Rumberger.

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Captain Douglas Harkins; Lieutenant Neal Mulhern; Lieutenant Jeremy Yorke; Al Goldberg-Board of Selectmen liaison.

Absent: Commissioner Judith Hession; Jean Fitzgerald-Board of Finance liaison.

**CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR SESSION**

**Chairman Dowling called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**ACCEPTANCE – MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Cartledge, second by Lee to approve the minutes of the June 9<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners. All in favor; none opposed. So moved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

**Budget/Financial Report:** Chief Drumm provided an update on the budget. The final audit report for fiscal year end June 30, 2022 will be available in August. It is estimated we will be under budget by \$18,000-\$25,000. There will be a line item transfer for approximately \$43,000 to cover buyback of vacation, sick and holiday pay. The buyback of unused time reduces future liability down the road.

Chairman Dowling asked for Holly Berke to share the final June 30, 2022 report at the August meeting.

**Activity / Statistics:** Captain Harkins reported there were 11 arrests, 50 motor vehicle stops, and one auto theft on the Boston Post Road involving an unlocked car with keys and purse inside. Four cars were rummaged through; two unlocked and two had their windows smashed in the parking lot of the Tidewater Inn. One moped theft and 10 shoplifting incidents at Stop and Shop. Two domestic disturbance cases.

Chairman Dowling stated that if we had overhead traffic surveillance cameras, we could potentially see what cars were driving down the road at the time of the motor vehicle incidents.

Lieutenant Mulhern: If you have an approximate time the crime occurred, then you can review the footage and potentially lead you to the suspect. The technology gives you an investigative advantage.

Captain Harkins: Anytime you are looking at a technology upgrade, it benefits law enforcement.

Chief Drumm referenced the Enhanced Camera Program that was proposed to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. Five of the largest cities in the State made a large purchase of cameras for the purpose of reduction in crime, and or to recognize an offender or vehicle. He concurred with Chairman Dowling that we should proceed with the request to procure the cameras.

Chairman Dowling: This will be one of the things that we will consider when we are planning the budget.

Chief Drumm reported on the statistics for the second quarter, April-June, 2022. There were 320 alarms, including 129 911 hang ups, 131 burglar alarms and 49 fire alarms. Suspicious vehicles 50, and suspicious persons 29. Please call the police when you see suspicious activity. Criminal investigations 170, in-custody arrests 356, involuntary committals 20, and K-9 assists 9. Animal nuisance complaints 99. R-1 First Responder calls 388. Motor vehicle accidents 76. Motor vehicle enforcement: arrests 30, speed enforcement 160, DWI arrests 3, cellphone/texting 2, written warning 195 and verbal warning 16. Total calls for service totaled 2,118 for a daily average of 23.

**Traffic Report:** Lieutenant Mulhern provided an update on the Regional Traffic Squad which involves Madison, Guilford, East Haven, North Haven and North Branford one day a week, on a rotational basis through the towns. We meet beforehand and select the areas of town we are interested in having monitored. This past Tuesday we had fourteen officers in town who performed 102 traffic stops; 32 infractions, 2 misdemeanors, and 68 verbal or written warnings. Each agency handles their own tickets and paperwork. License plate readers were used to detect unregistered cars. Also, seatbelts and cell phones were monitored in the center of Town, and radar enforcement was used in various areas of town. Show of force reminds people we could be out there today and they drive accordingly. DOT wants to get on board and provide funding.

Chief Drumm was in a meeting with Town Planner-Erin Mannix, and Town Engineer-John Iennaco, discussing cross-walks and speed signs. We had 5 speed signs delivered. One has been installed by Cohen's Bagels. A second speed sign will be placed on Route 1 as you make a left off the Connector near the rise by Donahue's. Request by DOT to put a cross-walk by Donahue's and Dunkin Donuts. It is very dangerous because people can be standing by the rise in the road by Donahue's. A study was done and it was decided not to do that. Post paving, in the last month, the State came back and said they wanted to put in cross-walks. The Chief reminded them there were studies done and it was decided not to put a cross-walk there because it is too dangerous. He asked the DOT if they were planning on complying with local traffic authority standards of putting in advance warning signs and they said no. The cost is approximately \$30,000 for a warning sign. We received 2 additional signs from DOT, which they will monitor. We have 3 other speed signs we will be placing on town roads. I am going to ask for 5 more speed signs from the Traffic Institute.

In the Eastern part of Town there are several housing developments going in there. One on Cottage Road with multiple apartments, some with several bedrooms. There will be another development across the street at Marina Landing, if that gets approved, with 34 units. That part of Town will become very busy.

**Training Report:** Lieutenant Yorke provided the training update. The Department recertified 12 officers with POSTC, extending their certification another three years. Department participated in a total of 250 training hours. Training consisted of each officer completing 2 hours of De-Escalation and Minimizing Use of Force for a

total of 60 hours, and 1 hours of MPD Juvenile Law Department Policy Annual Review for a total of 30 hours. Detective DeGoursey completed 40 hours of Digital Currency Investigation Course. Lieutenant Yorke attended a 3-day course at the CT Police Academy on how to lead a Critical Incident. Captain Harkins, Lts. Mulhern, Perron and Yorke completed 6 hours of Department Annual Firearms Training for a total of 24 hours. One officer completed 16 hours of Emergency Medical Responder Training. Three officers attended the two day monthly regional SWAT team training, totaling 48 hours; one officer attended one day of K-9 Training. Dispatchers participated in 16 hours of training consisting of Dispatcher Specialized Call Types-Active Shooter. Sgt. Roy and Officer Strickland are designing an 8-hour course for the upcoming months for active shooters.

We received our shipment of body and car cameras from Safe Fleet. This week a representative was here setting up our systems and training officers on the use of the new cameras. We are fully operating on our new body camera system. The officers have responded positively towards the cameras. Cameras are used for any official public interaction.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR:** Captain Harkins provided the update. Fireworks on July 3<sup>rd</sup> were a successful event. We had 36 officers assigned to the event. We requested mutual aid from State Police and Clinton and Branford Police Departments. On July 4<sup>th</sup> we had the Independence Day Parade with approximately 24 Madison Police Officers working the event. The Concert on the Green was postponed until the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>. This coming week from Wednesday-Saturday will be the Rotary Club Carnival at Academy School.

**Regional Shared Services:** Chief Drumm commented there is some discussion about the possibility of building a Regional Dispatch in Madison.

**Current Issues:** Chief Drumm reported Officer Mark Welz will be graduating from the Bridgeport Police Academy on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Sergeant Hoffman is retiring after ten years and joining the Sturbridge, MA Police Department, which is closer to his home. Officer Martin is also retiring after ten years and is taking a job with State of Connecticut Consumer Protection, Monday-Friday. He has requested to stay on part-time for weekends. Motion to accept resignations. All in favor, none opposed. So moved.

We had one position in our budget for July 1. We will now need to fill 3 positions. The good news is that Captain Harkins, Lt. Mulhern and Lt. Yorke have been aggressively watching the various test results around the State. They conducted 15 initial interviews and came up with 7 viable civilian candidates and one lateral, all of which other Police Departments are also interested. We are asking the BOPC to interview these candidates in the near future.

Chairman Dowling stated the BOPC appreciates the recruiting efforts. He asked Holly Berke to coordinate schedules in order to get a quorum vote.

Captain Harkins reported the new Dispatcher is scheduled to start on July 25, 2022. We interviewed one lateral from the Town of Hamden with excellent references. Lieutenant Yorke went above and beyond to get the recruiting process rolling so that we had the first opportunity with the top scorers.

Lieutenant Yorke spoke about his recruiting efforts. On June 22<sup>nd</sup> he attended the written exam at the Community Center in Orange. He was able to speak and sell the Madison Police Department to those that took the exam.

Chief Drumm discussed the schools hiring Armed Security Guards to add security to the schools during the school year. The State requirements to carry a firearm are: be a former police officer, in good standing, proficient in firearms and get trained. They will get trained in August at the POSTC Academy. We still have the two SRO positions in conjunction with this that will remain dominant. The Board of Education needs to seek funding for this with the Board of Selectmen.

Commissioner Lee discussed the possibility of the Armed Security Guards being hired to work for us part-time in the summer.

Lt. Yorke said they would need to get recertified with POSTC.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Cartledge liked the dialogue about the new cameras and commended Lt. Yorke for his recruiting efforts. Commissioner Rumberger concurred.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** to Executive Session by Cartledge second by Lee. All in favor; none opposed. So moved. Meeting adjourned by 6:49 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION adjourned at 6:59 p.m.**