

**SUFFIELD POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Suffield Police Commission was held on February 18, 2015 at 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT.

Present: Chairman Kevin Armata, Vice Chairman Kenneth Pascoe.

Commissioners: Matt Joyal, Jeff Davis, and Jack Quinn, and Clerk Linda Stevenson

Also Present: Chief Michael Manzi, Captain Craig Huntley, Attorney Joe Flynn, and Recording Secretary Karen Doyon

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Chairman Armata called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked the Recording Secretary to take a silent roll call.

Chairman Armata asked for a motion to amend the Agenda; to move item number three [Communications and Announcements] to item number two. Vice Chairman Pascoe made the motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Quinn. Motion carried unanimously.

II. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Detective Justin Fuller, Union President for the Suffield Police Department had a prepared letter dated February 18, 2015, and read it in its entirety.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Armata opened up the floor to public comment.

Patti Bergdahl Suffield Police Dispatcher, read in its entirety a letter dated February 9, 2015, addressed to the Police Commission and the Citizens of Suffield in response to a letter dated 12/17/2014 from Board of Director, Andy Wakefield of the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association.

The following comments precede the January 21, 2015 Police Commission meeting:

- Nancy Gegesky of Jackson Drive spoke in favor of Detective Fuller's letter, but is hoping for a clearer resolution of the investigations.
- Virginia Bromage 576 North Main Street, read from a statement, and spoke in favor of an outside independent investigation.
- Shannon Watson of Griffin Road spoke in response to Dispatchers letter.
- Amy Raye, Town resident spoke in favor of Detective Fuller's letter, but had additional concerns regarding the allegations.

With no further comments...

Attorney Joe Flynn, Town Counsel from the law office of Alfano & Flynn, Suffield CT made himself available to give additional advisement, and to answer questions of the Commission.

Vice Chairman Pascoe then reopened public comment to hear additional statements.

- Chris Rago of 22 Brookside Drive asked several questions at which Attorney Flynn answered.
- Gordon Stagg of 1575 North Stone Street reiterated an appeal for a [independent] third party investigation.

With nothing further, Chairman Armata closed public comments.

I. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Armata asked if there were any changes to the January 21, 2015 “Amended” meeting minutes. With none, Commissioner Davis made the motion to accept the Amended January 21, 2015 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Quinn. Motion carried unanimously.

II. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Budget: Captain Huntley reported the following:

- Budget is at forty-four percent for salary, with the grand total of forty-five percent remaining. Numbers are where they should be during this time of the year.

Activity: Nothing to report.

Detective Report:

- Chief Manzi briefly discussed a closed case regarding two arrests and the seizure of drugs and \$13,000.00 dollars [case closed].

K-9 Report:

- Chief reported that since Officer Osowiecki has been on Light Assignment, he and Lieutenant Brown have begun an audit of the evidence room.
- Vice Chairman Pascoe commended Officer Osowiecki on all of the volunteer time he contributes to training, etc...

Commissioner Quinn made the motion to accept the reports as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

III. CHIEF’S REPORTS

Items offered in Chief Manzi’s report and items added to his report were as follows:

- Discussed the increase mortality rate of active police officers while on duty including K9 dogs. Ambush-style attacks of active police officers are on the rise.
- Snowmobile accident at Congamond Lake.
- Roof accidents due to snow removal.
- Untimely death on Spruce Street West.
- New General Orders.

- Officer out on Workers Compensation due to a dog bite.

Chairman Quinn made the motion to accept Chief Manzi's report as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Chief gave update on new recruit.

V. NEW BUSINESS- None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the February 18, regular Suffield Police Commission meeting at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully
Chairman Kevin Armata