

SUFFIELD POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 18, 2015

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

Present: Chairman Kevin Armata, Vice Chairman Kenneth Pascoe

Commissioners: Rick Stromoski, Jeff Davis, and Jack Quinn, and Clerk Linda Stevenson

Also Present: Chief Anthony Riello, First Selectman Melissa Mack, 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.

Chairman Armata welcomed newly elected Commission member Rick Stromoski, and newly elected First Selectman, Melissa Mack.

II. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk Stevenson read into the minute's thank you letters and emails as follows:

- Letter to Chief Riello dated November 14, 2015 from Ware Police Department, Officer Diana Gliniecki for the assistance of Officer Osowiecki and K9 "Z" for the Ware Business Association's Fall Fest.
- Email to Chief Riello dated October 21, 2015 from Melissa Healy for Officer Geoff Miner's outstanding assistance during a call to help her three year old daughter.
- Thank you card to Officer Kieselback and the Suffield Police Explorers dated October 27, 2015. On behalf of the Harvest Fair Committee of the West Suffield Congregational church [Diane Phelon], for assisting in parking at the fair event.
- Thank you card from Brownie Troop 10966 to Officer Kieselback/Suffield Police Department for letting them tour the police station and for teaching about safety.
- Thank you card from Colleen Bland to Officer Kelly for his assistance in a police matter.
- Thank you card with a donation of \$225.00 from Sylvia Mueller dated November 2, 2015 to the Suffield Police Department, for its service.

III. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Chairman Armata asked if there were any changes to the regular meeting minutes of October 21, 2015. There were two grammatical errors: one on page 1, and one on page 2.

Commissioner Quinn made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Clerk Stevenson. Motion carried unanimously.

I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Chief Riello asked to move the report order by having the Detective submit his report first. Chairman Armata approved.

- Detective Fuller presented his report dated October 22, 2015 through November 16, 2015.
- Officer Osowiecki presented his report for September and October, 2015. In addition to his report, Officer Osowiecki announced that he went to Indiana for a three day test for Master Trainer, and is now an Accredited Master Trainer in Narcotic's Detection. The North American Police Work Dog would like for Officer Osowiecki to add more disciplines under his services.
- School Resource Officer [SRO] Officer Kieselback presented his report for October 11, 2015 through November 18, 2015.
- Operations Report was submitted and presented by Lieutenant Brown dated November 12, 2015. Lt. Brown reported on the following:
 - Crime Analysis/Traffic Data
 - Significant Cases
 - Police Update: Mission Statement
 - Drug Task Force/Narcotics Concern
 - Traffic Concerns Update: Officer Sargent provided updates regarding major concerns with traffic signage, crosswalks etc. Brief discussion followed.
 - Budget (As of 10/31/2015): Thanked Debbie Cerrato and Katie Martin for their help in providing pertinent information from the [Munis] Software program.
 - Equipment Update
 - Training Update
 - Employee Status

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

II. CHIEFS REPORT

Chief Riello thanked Kathy Mormino for her contribution in streaming the Commission meeting [live], and thanked First Selectman, Melissa Mack for her attendance.

Detective Fuller just completed a very intensive class on arson investigation; a huge asset to the Department.

Chief Riello gave accolades to Officer Kieselback, K9 Officer Osowiecki, Officer Sargent, and Lieutenant Brown, for their accomplishments and efforts.

Discussed training and money spent in training.

Chief Riello thanked the Executive Search Committee for the great job they have done to cut the field down to four applicants.

The Officers are now participating in "No Shave November", from November 15 through December 15th. The No Shave November is to raise awareness for cancer victims. This associates with those who have lost their hair during the treatment of cancer, and in return, the money saved in shaving products is donated to fighting cancer and prevention.

Chief Riello reiterated that the Departments current budget for training is being spent responsibly to move forward into the 21st Century.

Commissioner Quinn made the motion to approve the Chief's report as presented; Vice Chairman Pascoe seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS - None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- **Review and approval of new General Order #1-1; Law Enforcement Role and Authority, Mission Statement:**
Chairman Armata asked if everyone had a chance to review the new Order; the Commission responded that they did.
Commissioner Quinn made the motion to adopt the new General Order #1-1, Commissioner Stromoski seconded the motion. Chairman Armata asked for discussion. Commissioner Stromoski asked that the new Order be read aloud for the public and for the record. Clerk Stevenson read in its entirety the new General Order #1-1. Motion carried unanimously to adopt the new GO.
Chief Riello added that the Mission Statement was fostered from the Strategic Planning Event.
- **Fleet Roster:** No comments on the submitted fleet roster.

Clerk Stevenson stated that she had a request from a resident asking if the Police Department could publish burglaries and the streets where the burglaries occur. Discussion followed regarding a daily logs possibly on social media.

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Armata opened up the floor for nominations.

- Rick Stromoski nominated Linda Stevenson for Chairman, [*Clerk Stevenson stated "no second is needed in the motion".*]
Jeff Davis nominated Kevin Armata for Chairman.
Chairman Armata called for a roll call vote. Motion passed for Kevin Armata to hold position as Chairman, 4-2-0.
- Rick Stromoski nominated Linda Stevenson for Vice Chairman.
Ken Pascoe nominated Jack Quinn as Vice Chairman.
Chairman Armata called for a roll call vote. Motion passed for Jack Quinn to hold position as Vice Chairman, 4-2-0.
- Vice Chairman Quinn nominated Ken Pascoe for Clerk.
Rick Stromoski nominated Linda Stevenson for Clerk.
Chairman Armata called for a roll call vote. The nomination passed for Ken Pascoe to hold position as Clerk, 4-2-0.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chris Rago of 22 Brookside Drive spoke of her displeasure of the election vote, and of her displeasure of publishing burglaries with street addresses. Ms. Rago commented on the messages on the marquee.
- Nancy Gegesky of 171 Jackson Drive spoke of her displeasure regarding the vote on the above mentioned elections.
- Janet Adams of Griffin Road asked if the prescription drug Naloxone [Narcan] is carried by our Officers. Lieutenant Brown responded that they do not, but it is carried by the Emergency Medical personnel. Chief Riello stated that he will look into it seeing that there is a drug epidemic in our Town.
- Bruce Rietberg of 12 Devine Road spoke about different locations to publicize burglaries on certain websites. Mr. Rietberg hoped to see a different outcome in the above mentioned elections. Would like to see more parking in front of the building.
- Amy Raye Suffield resident expressed her displeasure regarding the vote on the above mentioned elections.
- Kathy Mormino of 519 South Stone Street expressed her displeasure regarding the vote on the above mentioned elections.
- Jackie Mahanna of Diane Lane expressed her displeasure regarding the vote on the above mentioned elections.
- Gordon Stagg of 1575 North Stone Street expressed his displeasure regarding the vote on the above mentioned elections, wants to see an objective process for the selection of Chief based on the outcome of the election. Commissioner Davis responded.
- Amy Raye asked if the Commission has apologized to Officer Reynolds, or Linda Stevenson.
- First Selectman Melissa Mack stated that the vote has been made and the public has to respect the action that was taken. Ms. Mack said she has confidence that the Commission will not go in the same direction as in the past, and with a new Chief coming on board she asked that everyone move forward and work together.
Ms. Mack spoke in regards to a personal call made to her home this day eight years ago today; she publicly thanked the Police Department and the Ambulance Association for doing their job. She asked that the public and Commission need to work together to move forward in a positive way.

Public comment was closed at 8:32 pm.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Update of Chief Selection Process.

Chairman Armata stated that he wants to change the agenda and not go into executive session, but discuss publicly all the updates for the Chief selection process.

- There are four candidates left.
- On Monday, November 23rd there will be an assessment center: three or four qualified people will have the candidates go through different scenarios and evaluate the candidates.
- The four applicants will be presented to the Commission the following week on December 1st to perform a Round-Robin: applicants meet with different groups and

answer questions. After which the different groups will speak about the candidates [candidates will not be present].

- The Commission will then decide when the next meeting will be to evaluate everything.

To recap: 1.) The Executive Search Committee reduced the applicants down to four. 2.) Assessment board will give ratings in where the candidates are at technically [public input will be taken]. 3.) Commission will talk to discuss how many more days will be needed.

Chief Riello reiterated that the applicant's names are still not public. After the Round-Robin event the names will become public.

Chris Rago asked how the public will be able to give input, and how is information going to be given to the public. Chairman Armata responded, stating that at the next regular meeting [December], the consultant will give an evaluation.

Chief Riello stated that the Round-Robin will play a large part in the information process as well.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the November 18, 2015 meeting at 8:55 pm.

Chairman Kevin Armata