

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES  
SPECIAL MEETING – January 14, 2010  
9 CAMPUS DRIVE, MADISON– 6:30 PM**

Attendees: Commissioner Eric Thornburg, Commissioner Edward Kritzman, Commissioner Garry Gyenizs, Commissioner Thom Cartledge, Commissioner Ed Dowling

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Members of the Public; Press, Wrecker Company Representatives

**REGULAR SESSION**

Commissioner Gyenizs called the Special Meeting of January 14, 2010 to order at 6:30 PM and requested all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA – CHIEF’S REPORTS**

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Gyenizs, to accept minutes of the December 7, 2009 Regular Meeting. All in favor. None Opposed. So moved.

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Gyenizs, to accept minutes of the December 21, 2009 Special Meeting. All in favor. None Opposed. So moved.

**INTRODUCTION and REPORT**

• **Chief Jack Drumm**

Chief Drumm reported he has met with business people downtown and in the shops. He has initiated having officers driving throughout town in unmarked units, including himself. State reports indicate Madison’s officers excelled with patrols during the holiday period and in fact, exceeded statistics of neighboring towns. He is still grasping the budget. Chief Drumm mentioned that he appreciates that the Department’s men and women are working hard.

Recently, Chief Drumm met with the FBI to secure a slot at Quantico for the FBI National Academy for one of the officers; that will provide the future of the department with invaluable training. Once this opportunity is approved by the Police Commission it will be advertised with the officers of the Department.

The Chief reported the officers are now carrying Tasers. The two officers who are currently at POST are doing above average per their mid-term report. Currently we have two officers in the FTO program which will finish up in early February.

Commissioner Kritzman added, the opportunity to send someone to FBI NA is really significant – it is sought after; it is hard to get acceptance. He feels to send an officer is terrific for the officer but just as terrific for the department and he thanked the Chief, adding it is a great accomplishment. He continued, he has reviewed the training courses which are beyond normal certification; accident reconstruction gives us another very critical resource.

Commissioner Dowling asked about the FBI NA timing; Chief Drumm explained that he will submit the name to Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) Kim Mertz; the FBI will conduct an extensive background check. Requirements are that the applicant be on a management track, in good physical condition, with good body mass. There will be several meetings with Academy alumni. The 10-week program begins in October. The officer can come home weekends, will stay at the Marine Base at Quantico and participate in classes all day, every day. Chief Drumm continued, training includes a graduate or undergraduate level track; he/she will graduate with 15 credits from the University of VA. In answer to Commissioner Cartledge’s inquiry relative to how many candidates are anticipated, Chief Drumm explained the slot will not go to someone who will leave in a short period of time – this will be for someone looking to enhance their career; we do have those people within the ranks.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS – None**

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

- **Commissioner Introductions**

Commissioner Thom Cartledge was on the Police Commission for two years, four years ago. He is a Maritime Academy graduate, was a naval officer and currently has a small plastics business which involves traveling throughout Connecticut, China and India. He is looking forward to the opportunity to again be a member of the Commission.

Commissioner Eric Thornburg is the President and CEO of the Connecticut Water Company which serves 50 towns statewide. He was raised in the Midwest and moved to Madison 4 years ago from St. Louis. He plans to spend the rest of his working life in Connecticut with his wife and 2 children where he enjoys the community and the welcome they have received. He is very anxious to serve the people, chief and officers of Madison and is looking forward to this responsibility in the interest of serving the people of Madison.

Commissioner Ed Dowling has lived in Madison for 30 years and recently retired as SVP of HR for Yale New Haven Hospital. Earlier, he had the opportunity to meet the Chief and fellow commissioners and is extraordinarily impressed with the sense of responsibility they have espoused and their shared goals. He is looking forward to working with his colleagues on the Police Commission.

Commissioner Kritzman has been with the Board of Police Commission for 2 ‘very tumultuous years’ which saw very controversial issues but progressed forward. With the selection of Chief Drumm, he feels we have the opportunity to rebuild the police department and with the Chief’s leadership, skills and passion he is looking forward to the future. The Board of Police Commission will be based on fundamental issues of progress. Before being sworn in, the commissioners all met with the Chief. To maximize efforts the commission needs community involvement and welcomes public attendance; the Commission will provide opportunities for the public to voice their concerns. The members of the department are accountable to the Chief, who is accountable to the Board, which is accountable to the Town.

Commissioner Gyenizs has served two of his four years as a member of the Police Commission. He and the commissioners look forward to the progress that will be made by the department. He is a long time resident with his wife and three children.

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Dowling to accept Chief’s Reports. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

## **ELECTION OF POLICE COMMISSION OFFICERS**

- **Elections: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Clerk**

Commissioner Gyenizs opened the floor for nominations for commission officers:

Commissioner Kritzman said he had the opportunity to meet with Commissioner Thornburg to exchange ideas about management styles and the inclusion of all members in decision-making. Community involvement is crucial to the success of the department and the Board.

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Cartledge to nominate Eric Thornburg as Chairman. There were no other nominations. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Chairman Thornburg expressed that this is a great honor and he appreciates the vote of confidence which he will earn. He will seek to collaborate to serve the people of Madison and this Chief. He added, we are all excited about the possibilities to move forward. We are ready to put our shoulders together and move forward. He expressed appreciation for the confidence of the town.

**MOTION** by Chairman Thornburg to nominate Ed Dowling, a former VP of Human Resources for Yale New Haven Hospital who possesses experience relative to benefits, negotiations and all the skill sets we will need on the executive team. Second by Kritzman. The Chairman asked for discussion – there was none. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Chairman Thornburg then addressed the need for a clerk/secretary for the Board and opened the floor for nominations.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Cartledge to nominate Ed Kritzman who brings specific skills to the task; he is very detailed and specifics-oriented and will provide very accurate information. Second by Dowling. Chairman Thornburg added, Mr. Kritzman has been instrumental in bringing him up to speed with the Commission and has a tremendous amount of experience which already has been invaluable to him. There were no other names brought forward. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Chairman Thornburg requested a motion to move the 2010 Wrecker Lottery up on the agenda for the convenience of the many tow truck operators in the audience.

**MOTION** by Gyenizs, second by Dowling to move the 2010 Wrecker Lottery up on the agenda. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 2010 Wrecker Lottery

Chairman Thornburg explained when there is an accident on the town’s roads, one of the wreckers is called to clear the road. The lottery process is out of fairness for the call list; there is one tow company incumbent in the rotations as it is Madison-based.

The results of the lottery drawing:

<b>Lottery Order</b>	<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Drawn By</b>
1	Madison Auto Body (Incumbent)	
2	Guilford Texaco – Guilford	Gyenizs
3	American Auto – Clinton	Cartledge
4	United Towing – Branford	Dowling
5	Guilford Automotive – Guilford	Kritzman
<b>Alternates</b>		
A	Aronson’s Auto Body – Clinton	Chief Drumm
B	Midway Service – North Branford	

6:49 PM

**INTRODUCTION and REPORT**

- Chief of Police John “Jack” Drumm

By way of introduction, Chairman Thornburg introduced Chief Drumm and commented that the Chief began his law enforcement career in 1979 with the Connecticut State Police, where he served for over 25 years. During his career he was the Executive Officer and 2nd in Command of Hartford and Westbrook troops. Chief Drumm received 3 commendations for outstanding service, 3 for meritorious service and one of the CSP's highest honors – the Medal of Bravery.

Chief Drumm served with US Department of State in the West Indies as Port Security and in 2004 returned to Groton Long Point where he was the Chief for 5 years. The Chief holds a Master's degree in Business; a Master’s Certificate in Homeland Security Management and a Bachelor's of Finance; additionally, he is a graduate of the FBI National Academy at Quantico, VA. Chairman Thornburg added, the Board of Police Commissioners is ready to support and work with Chief Drumm as he begins the arduous task of building an outstanding and great police department in Madison.

Chief Drumm thanked the commissioners for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Madison and said he looks forward to the challenges, concluding we can make this one very strong department in size and depth, with good things to come.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Thornburg asked for public comments, which he wants to make a hallmark of the Board of Police Commission. He said the ability to lead the department is to work with the people; we need to hear about things that are going right. He invited the members of the public to make their comments.

Bonnie Rose – lives in Madison Ridge development. She commented on two break-ins in her neighborhood the first 10 months she was there and is attending as a concerned citizen for the safety of her neighborhood which has an established neighborhood watch. She has called in suspicious vehicles but said she has been dismissed due to the busy Christmas seasons, etc. She is anxious to know what to do to protect her home; she is looking forward to a symbiotic relationship with the new chief and the department. What is the matrix we can be compared to; what should we expect from the police?

When asked by Commissioner Kritzman if she spoke with an officer or a dispatcher, she said a dispatcher. Chief Drumm apologized and said although the call was in December – you should get a response. Does not want to hear people are abrupt when you call; there are only so many resources and he likes partnerships with neighbors – we rely on the public to be the eyes & ears of the town. Since he has been here, there have been a series of break-ins, particularly in the north. Generally the burglaries are solved in a period of time; they are after TVs, jewelry, etc. He has increased the use of unmarked cars; the officers are bound to see someone ready to commit a crime. He asked that people lock their doors; don't leave keys in cars. He is beginning to talk about overlapping patrols, unmarked cars; working out of the fire house with a satellite program. He again apologized for her negative experience and asked that she please call the office. Commissioner Cartledge said a couple of years ago there were comments such as this, that people felt short-shifted by dispatch and he asked if dispatchers would answer with his/her name. Chief Drumm said they do. Dispatch is a tough position – they are fielding numerous calls, entering information in the computers system, to include 911 – there can be up to 400 calls a day but that is not an excuse – he will address the training issues. Please call in something suspicious – it is all a long shot. Mrs. Rose asked about staffing – do we have enough resources? The Chief said resources are a debate – it is 18 miles from Rte 1 north to the town line, with a major highway and Hammonasset State Park having attendance of over 1 million people annually. We respond to over 350 calls in the park; we use our resources without funding. He asked for patience – we have an incredible solve-rate. Chief Drumm suggested people notify the Department for vacation house checks.

Phil Zuckerman – Madison Ridge – talked about being a victim of burglaries. Reiterated they have already had two burglaries. An officer was called; she took no interest in what was happening which was an out of state truck in his driveway. He feels it is very disturbing that the police are being dismissive of these calls and they are not getting attention. Thinks this is a vital matter; fears it is not being taken seriously enough. Commissioner Cartledge suggested Mr. Zuckerman get a vehicle description and a license plate number.

Bob Maloney - Bower Road: Welcomed and congratulated the new team. It is a new decade, a new commission and a new chief. Hopefully this also is the beginning of Madison's end of the Nuremburg trials. He presented Chairman Thornburg with "An Idiot's Guide to Robert's Rules of Order".

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Cartledge to accept the donation by Robert Maloney. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Commissioner Kritzman noted that he is concerned that the officer with whom Mr. Zuckerman had contact was probably inappropriate in how the matter was handled. The Chief has the power to address this concern. He explained that the dispatch unit is not under the direction of the police department and that creates unnecessary concerns. It is unusual for a police department to not manage its own dispatch center. Chief Drumm noted that dispatch is under the Town Health Director, John Bowers. Chairman Thornburg stated that while it is early in the new commission's tenure, they have asked the Chief to make some assessments and report back to the Board. They will seek to rectify the situation which he admitted he is not particularly familiar with at this point. He agreed with the concern of Commissioner Kritzman. Chief Drumm asked if he can have the Director contact Mrs. Rose; she said this was not an isolated incident. She has experienced both spectrums of responses. Chief Drumm will contact Ed Brunt.

Bob Maloney commented about the towing lottery so people would not to be misled. He said if someone has AAA they can request them as a tow company. They are not forced to use the next wrecker in the sequence.

Jim Matteson arrived, apologized for being late and introduced himself as the Board of Finance liaison. Chairman Thornburg noted that traditionally the meetings were at 7:30; the time has been moved to 6:30 to encourage the public to attend.

There were no more comments from the public.

7:20 PM

#### **FORMATION: COMMISSION COMMITTEES**

- **Transition Committee**

Chairman Thornburg said with a new chief and new commission this committee, which will have a relatively short life, will supply feedback to the Chief in his first 90-180 days so we are aligned in our goals.

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Dowling to establish a Transition Committee. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

**MOTION** by Thornburg, second by Cartledge to appoint commissioners Gyenizs, Thornburg and Dowling to the Transition Committee. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

- **Strategic Planning Committee**

Chairman Thornburg noted this is an essential committee to establish long range objectives for the department. We are looking for the Chief to help to get us off and moving. The committee will collaborate with members of the Board, the Chief, the Board of Selectmen, etc., in establishing this long range committee. They are looking for review and changes to the Mission Statement, values of the police department and promotions to attract others. What kind of department do we want to be in 2 or 3 years; we have the accreditation process – CALEA –which is a very logical step for the department.

**MOTION** by Thornburg, second by Gyenizs that members of this Strategic Planning Committee be Commissioner Kritzman as chair, joined by Commissioner Dowling. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. Chairman Thornburg said they are looking for a very highly consultative process with a plan embraced by the department, selectmen, and community.

#### **ESTABLISH KEY BUILDING BLOCKS**

Chairman Thornburg said these are the traditional areas of activity and community input and he thinks this is an excellent way to engage the Commission in areas of responsibility to provide the Chief with a resource when an issue arises, i.e., traffic safety. One of the commissioners would be a resource. These are the four key building blocks to put in to play.

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Dowling to establish four building blocks. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Commissioner Dowling said while each area seems to represent a specific focus, he also thinks it should be clear in terms of discussion that the full commission will be engaged. These issues would not be in a ‘silo’ form, rather an Olympic ring. All the commissioners will participate and be kept informed before any action is taken; we will not have four isolated committees. Chairman Thornburg agreed that is an excellent point; he will make sure all the commissioners are involved in these areas and he thought it helpful that commissioners could focus on their area of expertise; we are a commission of five. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

In summary, the commission committees are:

- Traffic Safety: Cartledge
- Community / Communications: Thornburg / Gyenizs
- Resources (Budget and Equipment): Dowling/ Kritzman
- Personnel and Organization: Kritzman / Dowling

Commissioner Cartledge noted there are 4 new subcommittees formed tonight and he suggested all the commissioners volunteer to work within all the committees.

Chairman Thornburg added we have a lot to do in a short amount of time. A number of committees are established by the bylaws of the commission. Commissioner Kritzman agreed this is a good move – it becomes the responsibility of all. To have members of the Police Commission focus on specific areas gives more of an ability to define certain problems.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Recruitment Status: Chief Drumm noted we continue to use LEC (Law Enforcement Council) as a recruitment agency; it is always ongoing. He would like to attract seasoned officers to the department to bring depth and experience. Right now LEC is providing us with good candidates; we continue to work with them.
- Commissioner Kritzman asked if, with the retirement of Officer LaPrise, we now have one vacancy. Chief Drumm answered yes.
- Traffic Updates - None: Town Engineer Mike Ott was not present.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Gyenizs said he looks forward to working with the new commissioners and the Chief, noting he feels there is a lot of positive activity going on and he looks forward to making the department better.

Commissioner Kritzman said he subscribes to Commissioner Gyenizs' comments that we are off to a good start and he feels there is a very cooperative effort on the part of the commissioners.

Commissioner Cartledge feels we have a good group of smart, dedicated people with the Town's best interest at stake.

Commissioner Dowling said he thinks the Chairman stated the role – we are here to serve, with public input, which will be extremely helpful to the Chief. We think we have the right man heading up the department. He is really looking forward to working with the commissioners and the staff on safety and law enforcement issues.

Chairman Thornburg said when he read Chief Drumm's initial comments to the community - that he will keep the citizens safe, protected and we will earn your trust – he felt that is a team he wants to be a part of. It suggests a process; it will take time to get where we want to be. He is thrilled to be a part of this – the future is bright – he doesn't have the burden or benefit of history; he is a clean slate. He will work hard to earn the trust of the board and the people of Madison. If he makes a mistake, he will work to learn and fix it and move forward. Although he can't promise perfection as chairman it won't be for a lack of trying. He is anxious to get started, meet the officers and support Chief Drumm in our mission. He concluded by saying he appreciates people being here tonight.

**CHIEF'S CORRESPONDENCE;** Chief Drumm noted he has one letter from the Connecticut State Police (CSP) which commends Sgt. Trent Fox. There was a jewelry store robbery; Tolland had a similar robbery. Sgt. Fox saw the similarities which he pursued with other agencies as they worked with CSP to bring it to a closure. He will receive an award for his endeavors from CSP. We are proud and congratulate him.

Chief Drumm noted a letter received from Robert Ganino who commended Officer Richard Perron on his handling of a deer strike; it was a job well done by Officer Perron. Chief Drumm asked that the appreciation of the Commission be extended to both officers.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairman Thornburg noted for the community's benefit, the Commission will discuss matters of litigation etc., and because of the nature, it will be done in Executive Session so strategies can be discussed. He also noted nothing can be added to tonight's agenda.

**7:44 PM**

**MOTION** by Dowling, second by Cartledge to adjourn to Executive Session. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Personnel Discussion: Pending Claims / Litigation
  - Sterling Termination Arbitration
  - Hedges v. Town of Madison
  - John Doe v. Town of Madison
  - Ricciuti v. Town of Madison
  - Coulter v. James Daniels
  - Promotional Process
  
- Present: Commissioners Thornburg, Dowling, Kritzman, Gyenizs, Cartledge, Chief Drumm

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Gyenizs to adjourn at 9:04 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Minutes accepted: February 11, 2010