

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES  
REGULAR MEETING –April 8, 2010  
9 CAMPUS DRIVE, MADISON– 5:00 PM**

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

Absent: Commissioner Garry Gyenizs

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; First Selectman Fillmore McPherson; Board of Selectmen Liaison Al Goldberg; Board of Finance Liaison Jim Matteson; Officers of the Department; Members of the Public; Press

**REGULAR SESSION**

Chairman Thornburg called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and asked that all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance, following which he asked for a motion to move the recognition ceremony to the beginning of the agenda.

**MOTION** by Dowling, second by Cartledge to move the promotion/civilian ceremony up on the meeting agenda. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

The Chairman continued, it is a privilege to serve along side Chief Drumm and the department's officers. It is fitting to honor Officer Ernie Boggs who, to his family, friends and fellow colleagues, represents the best of those in our country with a commitment to serving other people. No greater gift can one give than to lay down his life; first responders make that decision as a matter of course and routine with no second thought. At the heart of the matter, people want to belong to a cause and a legacy. We are on that journey, along with town officials. Thank you for serving and keeping us safe; thanks from the community. Officer Boggs has earned through experience, testing and performance his promotion to sergeant. *Serviens* – one who serves - is sergeant in Latin. Our new chief exemplifies service and is most proud of his team tonight.

Additionally, Chairman Thornburg advised there is one citizen's award tonight at what is not only our monthly meeting but is also an opportunity to honor a citizen for his great deed, in addition to the long awaited promotion of Ernie Boggs.

**CITIZENS' AWARD**

- Citizens' Award Recognition: James Knowles

Right near the home of Mr. James Knowles, a driver was involved in a serious accident; Mr. Knowles was first on the scene. The award recognition was read:

*The Madison Board of Police Commissioners recognizes James Knowles for his actions on February 24, 2010. When Mr. Knowles heard the impact of a motor vehicle which snapped a utility pole near its base resulting in wires on the ground and the odor of gasoline in the air, he immediately responded from his nearby home. Mr. Knowles, as the first person on the scene and without thought for the dangerous situation, pulled the victim from the vehicle, supported the victim's airway and assisted Officer Tom Bull in administering first aid while the ambulance was en route. Because of disregard for his personal safety and the actions of Mr. Knowles which aided both the victim and the Madison Police Department, he is hereby presented with the Madison Police Department's Citizen Award.*

Mr. Knowles was thanked by Chairman Thornburg and applauded by the Chief, audience and commissioners.

**PROMOTION CEREMONY**

- Promotion of Officer Ernest Boggs, Jr. to Rank of Sergeant

Chief Drumm read the biography of Officer Ernest Boggs, Jr., highlighting his 21 year service career achievements with the United States Coast Guard. Chief Drumm noted that Officer Boggs was hired in October 2000 and served as Class Sergeant for the 283<sup>rd</sup> POST Training Session class of 48 recruits where he was recognized for exemplifying good leadership skills, along with organizational skills, supervisory skills and people skills. Additionally, Officer Boggs received a Coast Guard Unit Commendation for Exceptionally

Meritorious Service from December 21, 1998 to July 10, 2000 during the 2001 *Tall Ships Newport* and *Cape Cod Canal Transit* events and was recognized by Coast Guard Special Agent-in-Charge Richard Deroche for dedication and professionalism during OPSAIL 2000. Officer Boggs was a Special Agent with the US Coast Guard Investigative Services, 1998-2000, an Aviation Flight Mechanic, a Small Boat Crewman and now serves the Madison Police Department as a Field Training and Armory Officer.

Chief Drumm and Chairman Thornburg administered the Sergeant's Oath to Officer Ernest Boggs, Jr. Immediately following, Chairman Thornburg asked for a brief recess for a celebration in recognition of Sgt. Boggs and Mr. Knowles.

5:13 PM

**MOTION** for a brief recess by Dowling, second by Cartledge. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. Motion for brief recess to begin celebration for 5 minutes.

Mr. McPherson leaves

5:20 PM Meeting Resumed

Chairman Thornburg appreciated the flexibility to change the meeting time to allow officers on their shifts the ability to attend the promotion of their colleague. He also thanked Al Goldberg and Jim Matteson for attending as board liaisons.

#### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Overview: Student Survey Results - Madison Alcohol and Drug Education Coalition (*M.A.D.E*)  
Chief Drumm reported that on March 24<sup>th</sup>, M.A.D.E. released their youth data survey which provided a snapshot of weaknesses and strengths when dealing with youth. The report was released to different town boards and presented to the public last week. There will be another presentation soon to go over the statistics.

- Overview: Field Training Process and Orientation of March 30, 2010  
Two recent POST graduates, officers Pugliese and Blackwell, are currently in the FTO program which they will complete in early-mid summer. Chairman Thornburg added, these two graduates were part of the original 26 officers – this will help the department staffing. Chief Drumm concluded, we are working toward our goals.

Chairman Thornburg reported he attended the MADE presentation, along with commissioners Cartledge, Kritzman and Chief Drumm, noting it was a very eye-opening report. He was pleased to finally get data that is coming from the youth of the community as to their experiences, challenges, etc. It provided levers the community can pull to assist. Not getting just the problems; we are getting the tools to address the problems. The police commissioners are excited about partnering with other boards and people in Madison.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA – CHIEF'S REPORTS**

Typically of a routine nature, these reports are approved all at once.

Chief Drumm reported he has completed 90 days as Chief of the Madison Police Department and highlighted the following:

1. Payroll is over budget in terms of investigative costs by approximately \$38,000 due to the homicide and other town-wide investigations which involve a lot of manpower hours. The projection, due to sergeant promotions, is to save over \$23,000 in supervisor overtime costs. There has been a special appropriation related to the unforeseeable homicide costs.
2. \$20,000 has been used to purchase two used vehicles for the investigative division with mileage of 27,000 and 50,000 respectively; he expects to reach 100,000 on each of the vehicles. Chairman Thornburg asked Mr. Goldberg if the Board of Selectman has everything they need to process police budget transfers, since it is an item on the upcoming Board of Selectmen agenda; Mr. Goldberg said they have all the information they need.
3. Chief Drumm reviewed statistics for the month:
  - a. 1450 calls for service to include
    - 155 False Alarms

- 57 Suspicious vehicles/persons
  - 88 criminal investigations
  - 3 juvenile arrests, 1 alcohol-related
  - 103 First Responder calls to include the officers carrying oxygen, AEDs, etc.
  - 25 Motor vehicle accidents (9 with injuries); 2 on private property; 21 involved enforcement
  - 591 Motor vehicle enforcements
    - Verbal & Written Warnings: 143
    - Infractions: 184
    - Misdemeanors: 200
    - Other enforcement: 52
4. Training Reports
    - a. Taser re-certification
    - b. Cooper Standard testing/training
    - c. Training related to dealing mental illness situations
  5. Three officers will be sent to bike training for certification which will give the department a total of 8 certified bike officers who will commence patrolling on the Memorial Day weekend. Commissioner Cartledge asked what the certification is for bike training; Chief Drumm advised all the requirements are covered under POST training statutes, to include 40 hours of training relative to specific criteria, operations, range qualifications including dismounting, crossing specific terrains, etc.
  6. FTO Program: With two officers currently on FTO, Chief Drumm would like to certify two additional field training officers to the current program.
  7. Redistricting: Chief Drumm reported he has been getting calls; people are noticing differences by the concentration of 2 lieutenants, both north and south, assisting their officers. There is now a high visibility; people are letting us know they see them on the streets. Feels this is a better allocation of resources. In the southern area the lieutenant is more visible – north has restrictions but officers are in the neighborhoods. Hope to reopen some earlier investigations; officers are knocking on doors to get closure of these open cases.
  8. North Madison Shopping Center: Chief Drumm reported there is a gym expanding its space which will make available a 2000 sq foot rental; that led to the Chief’s discussion of a potential substation in the shopping center. He has talked to the landlords, who would like to continue the discussion. In theory, a police presence could be in North Madison 24/7 providing increased visibility.
  9. Tip-A-Cop Fundraiser: On April 29<sup>th</sup> from 5-10 at Donohue’s in Madison, Madison police officers will participate in a Tip-A-Cop fundraiser for Special Olympics. The restaurant will donate a portion of the night’s proceeds and the professional staff will also donate a portion of their tips; it promises to be a good time for a good cause.

Commissioner Cartledge questioned if there is any value in looking at the fire house for use as a substation, rather than paying rent. Chief Drumm said he is not aware of the dynamics of the fire department; has put feelers out there. The shopping center is highly visible; people can come into the substation. It takes 11 minutes, lights & siren from the police department to get to North Madison; he would like to see an officer in the north district and would like the Board’s permission to pursue this. Chairman Thornburg said it is appropriate to do some studies.

Commissioner Kritzman added, the fire house might be adequate, while the shopping center has the public coming in and out. At a substation people can see a flag as a quantifiable ally; thinks we should get some clear authorization if space is available. We have to pay a modest rental; thinks the return based on public relations and presence is worth it.

Commissioner Dowling agreed and said he would be interested in hearing about the possibility of a substation in North Madison.

Chairman Thornburg asked for fact finding but was not prepared to commit at this time. He said he has questions and would like to explore the concept. It is not in our budget; it needs a little bit of a process; he is interested in the cost.

Chief Drumm said with the Board's permission he will get facts, speak with the landlords and the fire house adding it would enhance the security in that area. He will present the data at the next meeting. Chairman Thornburg thought that would be excellent.

Chief Drumm reported we average 35-40 calls for service (CFS) daily which require an officer's presence. We are above last year's statistics. In the last 3 months we have reopened cases that were not investigated; they are now being reviewed and that generates some of the numbers.

**MOTION** by Cartledge, second by Dowling to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2010 regular meeting as amended and the Consent Agenda. All in favor. None approved. So moved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Walter Lippmann, Sycamore Drive, thanked Chairman Thornburg for leading the Pledge of Allegiance and added every town meeting in Madison should start with the Pledge. There were 12 sworn officers today present for the promotion ceremony; rarely was there an officer at earlier meetings. He thinks in the 3-4 months under Chief Drumm's leadership for 12 cops to show up is a nice gesture.

Mr. Lippmann continued, he has had several productive meetings with the Chief, noting he is here to help build, not tear down and felt he was not listened to in the past. He wished the Board good luck. He does not believe the substation should be attached to the firehouse. He noted a police car outside the fire house with an officer in it; feels it could be a misconception by the public if they see a police car at the fire house.

Mr. Lippmann does not feel Dispatch should be under anyone but the Chief; sees no reason the chief of police or designee should not be in charge and would like the Commission to work with the town to restore that function to the police. He wished the department and commissioners success as they build for the town. Resources spent on crime prevention are a lot cheaper than spending after the crime is committed. He feels we need a police presence, more cops on the street.

Chairman Thornburg added, it is symptomatic of the *esprit de corps* under Chief Drumm's leadership - he can feel the enthusiasm. He went to the POST graduation of Blackwell and Pugliese, as did a number of officers. Mr. Lippmann concluded, that shows how morale has improved.

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Recruitment Status** – Chief Drumm reported he talked to the Guilford chief of police whose department currently has recruits at POST. Guilford may have staffing reductions and if forced into a lay off situation, Guilford wanted us to be aware of their situation. We have the position of retired officer Lori LaPrise to fill and a new hire as of 7/1. When Commissioner Kritzman asked if we are anticipating any retirements Chief Drumm answered he is not aware of any.
- **Traffic Updates:** Town Engineer Mike Ott  
Commissioner Cartledge noted he and Mike Ott are working on traffic issues; they will meet weekly. They walked and reviewed the distance of Main Street, parking, handicaps, etc. and letters from citizens. Some fit into the purview of the state; Mike Ott will get in touch with State Traffic Commission (STC) to see what flexibility we have in Madison. He said they also looked at several letters received by the Board and apologized to the public if they feel their interests were ignored. From this point forward, Commissioner Cartledge said he is responsible and asked the public to address concerns to him or Mike Ott.

Mike Ott provided his traffic updates:

- **Traffic Calming:** Public Works is preparing a traffic calming policy. In an apology to the Board, he explained that he planned to hand it out today but there was a bridge emergency (Bradley Corners

- Road). He will get copies to the Board, the Chief and the Board of Selectmen for their Monday meeting.
- There is a streetscape project between Rt 1 and Rte 79 to redo all traffic signs including parking restrictions. He said Commissioner Cartledge thought we could re-sign and re-delineate parking behind the south side buildings to the rear and along Rte 1. They did a traffic signage plan earlier; he will have it ready for the next meeting, noting it will take Board action to reapprove traffic restriction areas.
  - He met with Commissioner Cartledge about parking in town and also met with the first selectman. There are several requests regarding traffic safety issues which he and Commissioner Cartledge intend to address.
  - A request to review the intersection of Neck Road on the west side of School House Deli was sent in by a resident who is concerned that people ignore the stop sign and go through the intersection. She proposed that the town narrow up the intersection, however that is very wide because a lot of boat trailers use that road to get to the boat launch. Mr. Ott said they can control the area with top soil and curbing and move the stop sign to a better position. He and Commissioner Cartledge will draft a letter for the resident; the request needs to go to Selectmen.
  - Wall St/Rte 1/Bradley Road: Mr. Ott said they looked at the resident's concerns and will be responding to him. There was a concern regarding the right of way for pedestrians, heading south on Wall Street in that motorists are not observing the law to check there are no pedestrians before turning. He suggested a prohibition of 'right turn on red', which would have to be granted by the state if it is determined there is a geometric condition that the driver could not see pedestrians or pedestrian signals; there is no such restriction. Also in play is the accident history; we are checking with the state that there is not an elevated accident history.

Commissioner Cartledge suggested it might be appropriate to ask drivers to pay attention to what the rules are and be observant of pedestrians. Chairman Thornburg asked Mr. Ott what action the Police Commission needs to take. Mr. Ott said he has made that request to town counsel.

Commissioner Kritzman asked Mr. Ott about the short pedestrian cycle; he doesn't feel people are making a full stop before turning and thinks the sequencing should be changed. Pedestrians can cross diagonally but there is no indication they are allowed to do so. He has asked the state to look at the operation of those signals and the timing; he has worked with Lt. Dobbin on the crosswalk signal timing. Commissioner Kritzman feels it encourages jay-walking.

Mr. Ott said he has noticed and will fix the intersection of Samson Rock and Rte 1 where there is a sidewalk which directs pedestrians south of the crosswalk to cross in a bad location. He intends to remove that sidewalk so the indication to cross at that spot is no longer there.

Chairman Thornburg feels the assessment of traffic concerns is a great effort with a quick response to the community and encourages updates to inquiring citizens to apprise them their concern is being reviewed.

Jean and Jim Fasone – 41 Waterbury Avenue: Mrs. Fasone feels traffic situations on Waterbury Avenue are uncomfortable and asked that something be put in place to address delivery trucks, construction trucks, etc. which use the main path along the water. There are situations involving motorcycles and cars not observing the speed limit. Chairman Thornburg thanked Mrs. Fasone and said the town engineer and commissioner are working on her concerns.

Mr. Fasone noted a traffic study consisting of a speed indicator with a counter last late summer and asked that the Board refer to that counter for traffic statistics. Mrs. Fasone said the road is averaging 1000 cars/day.

Chief Drumm commented that the dynamics of Rte 1 are such that the light is too short for crossing in addition to vehicles turning right which are not watching the crosswalk. He suggested prohibiting a right turn on red at that location. Pedestrians also cross diagonally; traffic control takes over when cars are turning right. Mr. Ott said no request has been made to the state; in order for 'no turn on red' to be implemented a request must be made and approved. The Board has the ability to make the request for a study.

Chief Drumm added, the Waterbury route is an attractive car ride. He asked if there is a restriction on construction during the summer. Mr. Ott said there are no restrictions. The Chief commented that he often sees people walking 2-3 abreast on the roads, bicyclists, etc. all trying to share the road. Perhaps trucks should enter at the golf course and come in from Island Avenue to restrict the traffic. Also, speed humps are effective for traffic control.

6:10 PM

Chairman Thornburg handed the meeting over to Vice Chairman Dowling because he had to leave for another meeting and noted he is excited about the two new officers and their impact on the department.

Mr. Fasone said he is a fan of speed humps. Chief Drumm concluded that there are always different opinions; we need to find a balance and noted there are gradual speed humps.

Vice Chairman Dowling added, in that this is an area that has come up in the past, the Board will look forward to further discussions.

Commissioner Kritzman feels there will be a lot more police presence this summer. Regarding a right turn at Boston Post Road, he suggested looking at the driveway into the post office; restricting a right turn may impact those areas.

#### **Budget Process:**

Vice Chairman Dowling announced the full budget will be discussed on April 26 at a town meeting. He then called on Board of Finance Liaison Jim Matteson who said this is the time for folks to come out to hear about the status of all the town budgets which have been looked at by the boards of finance and selectmen. At the hearing people have the chance to provide input and ask questions. The Board of Finance will meet again to make any adjustments due to interest rates on bonding prior to the referendum on May 18. It is important for people to come out – related to police business, there are items very important to the department with discussions and changes made. It is important to come and hear that. Vice Chairman Dowling has had a very interactive experience with the boards of selectmen, finance and the chief; those dates are critical for anyone with comments or observations.

Mr. Goldberg had no comments.

Mr. Lippmann added if the opportunity comes up he is glad Chief Terribile mentioned new potential officers which would give the Chief the ability to do selective law enforcement to move officers in strategic locations. Feels it will be a big savings.

Mr. Matteson concluded the actions asked by the Chief are in the budget; this is a public hearing.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:** Vice Chairman Dowling noted letters of commendation relative to public safety recognition and mentioned a letter dated March 19, 2010 he would like read into the record. He explained, this is a letter to Chief Drumm from the State Police acknowledging the admirable work of his administrative assistant, Christie Hodge related to Major Crimes and support.

Dear Chief Drumm:

As you know, the detectives from the Central District Major Crime Squad have been working with your department since March 3, 2010 investigating the Barbara Hamburg Homicide.

During this time the hospitality of you and your department has been extraordinary. Please allow me the opportunity to single out the assistance received from your Secretary, Ms. Christie Hodge, which has been a tremendous asset to the investigative efforts.

Many times during the course of major investigations we forget to acknowledge the people that support our mission and who supply us with technical help. Ms. Hodge has gone above and beyond her regular duties and has treated all CSP personnel as they are members of the Madison

Police Department. Her professionalism, dedication and extraordinary competence have been invaluable.

During this investigation she has assisted with keeping a staff of twenty five detectives apprised of all phone messages and has made appointments and scheduled interviews. The amount of traffic in the front lobby at any given time was a full time job in itself.

Please pass on our thanks for Ms. Hodge and let her know that she is a true professional and all her assistance and generosity was very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Colonel Thomas Davoren  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Chief Drumm added, the CSP detectives, on their own, sent Ms. Hodge flowers in appreciation of her assistance.

Commissioner Kritzman added, having seen Christie Hodge's performance, her professional ability and knowledge is what these guys need in the way of support, in addition to her special skills.

Vice Chairman Dowling added, from 'Day One', Chief Drumm has talked about the officers, leaders and administrative team when he first arrived here. There is great cohesion; it is great this department is coming together.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION** by Kritzman, second by Cartledge to adjourn at 6:24 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Minutes accepted: May 13, 2010