

MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
January 6, 2020
COMMUNITY/TRAINING ROOM - 5:30 PM

Attendees: Chairman Ed Dowling; Vice Chairman Marietta Lee; Commissioner Thom Cartledge; Steve Shaw (conference call); Ann Rumberger

Also Present: Chief Jack Drumm; Capt. Joe Race; John Iennaco, Town Engineer

Absent: Al Goldberg, Board of Selectmen; Liaison; Ken Kaminsky, Board of Finance Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Opening and Call to Order at 5:35 PM by Chairman Dowling. Commissioner Shaw joined the meeting via a conference call. Chairman Dowling welcomed Ann Rumberger who is replacing Peggy Lyons, now the First Selectwoman. Commissioner Shaw is calling in on a conference call. He thanked Selectwoman Lyons for her service to the Board of Police Commission.

REGULAR SESSION

Chairman Dowling asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jack Richter, 88 Church Lane. Not making a public comment; already met with a couple of gentlemen here; came to observe a meeting.

MOTION by Cartledge, second by Lee to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2019. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. All in favor.

CHIEF'S REPORT

BUDGET/FINANCIAL: Chief Drumm reported most of the encumbered wages have been posted for this fiscal year by the town as of the week before Christmas which indicates the changes in the report. Unencumbered wages for former employee Officer French (resigned) are still on our lines. We are where we should be for our expenses, contracts and purchased services, etc.

Chairman Dowling asked if we incur any significant increases in the last half of the year compared to the first half. Chief said most of the impact is the summer - parades, concerts, fireworks, etc.; we created a special line to track that. Public safety is not necessarily reflected in our budget; he prefers not to move money around and is using this as a tracking for the next fiscal year. The Board of Selectmen and Finance are aware of this; we are using it basically as a placeholder. As far as unusual expenses, we still have backfilling of 1 sergeant and 1 officer, as well as 1 injured sergeant who is out still out; that accounts for an average of 6 position replacements every pay period for the last 14 weeks which is impacting our budget - which we didn't count on. We will use the unencumbered funds to offset replacements.

Chief added that he will meet with CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) tomorrow over a couple of items having to do with replacements (cars); some programs we do with the schools and building programs, communications/cameras. He met with Stacy Nobitz and Art Sickle today; he met previously with the First Selectwoman. On 1/23 he will meet with the Selectmen on the budget and on 1/25 will present the police budget to all the boards. We are looking at a 2.5 increase (a safe place holder); contracts expire the end of June. We will meet next month to start negotiations. Car replacements - this will be year 5; \$48,000 for 4 car cycle has now moved up to approximately \$60,000 which reflects an increase.

Chairman Dowling asked if there are any subcontracted services increases. Do we have a specific CIP dollar request regarding the cameras? Chief said our budget is predicated on need, it is not a wish list; if it is something we can do in increments I state that. We did that with the radio project. He asked town (CIP) for advice on how to structure or is it something we just can't do right now - that's the approach he will take... There was something in the media about \$4MM for cameras which was reported incorrectly; the cameras are anywhere from \$5,000-\$20,000; it comes back to us for the internet capacity involved. If it is something that does not record it is less money - for example, the camera on top of the library and that's open to the public; the school cameras are not; cameras used in the critical infrastructure of town campus are not open to the public.

Chairman Dowling asked if there is a discussion, what would you want as a Chief for \$50K? You can do it two ways ... for \$50K what would we get in the form of camera structure or if the other way, we think there should be a camera linked to Dispatch. One on each end of Main Street - how much would 2 cameras cost us? Chief said we have an incredible amount of frauds every month in town against seniors; we have proactive training in that regard. In the downtown area of one square mile alone we have more than 9 banks. We have cameras in the dispatch center in real time which he calls force multipliers for the police force. Cybercrimes are incredible; we have an officer who works with the Secret Service Task Force - that information is very helpful. We have to get out in front of this. He wants to use technology in the cars and on officers to secure the downtown area; body cameras which enhance the police average \$1800-2000 each to include the server hardware The camera on the top of the library provides very important information if something happens downtown.

Chairman Dowling added, if the Board of Selectmen or Board of Finance wants to start enhancing technology and video capabilities for public safety and they ask what is the first step, what do you think that should be. Chief said a needs assessment for the critical areas that need coverage and perhaps also to work with schools, Public Works and the Recreation Department; they all have a need for cameras. Chairman Dowling continued, but if the question comes up do you feel you are in a position to say we are going to conduct a needs assessment? It sounds like if I'm on the Board of Finance, I would ask how much money should we earmark for FY 20/21. Chief said we already have some monies that are put in reserve: technology, buildings and our agency. We are paying down the debt on the newer cameras, our cameras and our own independent server. We have a place holder for "X" amount of dollars down the road. We redid the radio system slowly over 5-6 years. He feels the boards see us as responsible - if we need something we ask for it - this is not a wish list. We are in the third phase of the radio system, the subscriber equipment for hand-helds and cars; we did not replace them all at once, we phased them in. We have 31 officers plus support staff, animal control and dispatch that use the radios; some of the radios are 25 years old.

Commissioner Cartledge asked what degree of cooperation we have with the merchants downtown to allow us to utilize their systems? Chief said we have never been turned down; he has met with some bank presidents to discuss the 501(c)(3) status regarding funds donated to the community. He asked if they would be willing to put up say \$20K on each individual camera and the operating expense. They were very receptive to the use of the Internet, etc.; that meeting was organized by Ryan Duques. Some people feel the cameras impede their privacy but actually the purpose is to monitor commerce areas. Anywhere you go - businesses, banks, courts - there are cameras. We are not going to use them to be intrusive; just to monitor high activity areas.

Chairman Dowling noted if it is a community safety aspect, as a Commission we need to discuss and support that premise; thinks we need to be very clear to say we think there is a public safety aspect for cameras. Following the needs assessment, we think a reasonable first step is to install 2 cameras and we think it should be a budget request going forward. He understands other departments (Beach & Rec., schools) may also request cameras which could be coordinated in terms of the vendor but thinks we also need to say this is a legitimate request for finance to support. There is a legitimate request for camera financing; other departments may bid with us as well but this is a police priority.

Chief Drumm added, we take on different roles- speed signs, school zones, crosswalks, etc., and although we are the legal Traffic Authority we have gone beyond this aspect to help the other agencies in town to help work through issues regarding safety at our own expense but we can't just keep taking this from our budget. He thinks we have taken on that role and been very successful post-Newtown with physical assessments of the schools plus the private schools such as Country School and Montessori and town infrastructures.

Chairman Dowling concluded technology is such an integral part of society, every police department is going to have a webmaster to control technology because it is such an important force multiplier; body cameras have served this community well. We want to assure the Department's requests are recognized and viewed as priorities. Chief added our credibility with the juvenile, racial profiling projects is based on the transparency of this community. We lead the state with CALEA and POST accreditation; we need to do what we do best and continue as such and need to provide the next generation with the proper tools to run this place.

QUARTERLY ACTIVITY/STATISTICS (October, November, December): 395 Alarms, 169 of which were Burglary; 153 were 911 calls; 56 Fire Alarms; 17 Wires Down; 68 Suspicious Vehicles; 31 Suspicious Persons (don't hesitate to call us for cars or persons); 201 Criminal Investigations with 72 In-custody Arrests; 29 Involuntary Committals; 7 K-9 Assists; 80 Animal Nuisance complaints; 1 Animal Bite; 3 Adults Missing; 0 Juveniles Missing (1-6); 1 Juvenile Missing (7-15); 0 Juvenile Alcohol; 0 Juvenile Narcotics-related; 5 Juvenile Complaints (most referred to Juvenile Review Board); 84 Fingerprint requests; 462 First Responder calls with Medical Assistance (first on scene); 190 Assists to Persons; 36 Assists to other agencies.

Additionally, 82 Motor Vehicle Accidents with 3 injuries, 51 with Property Damage, 24 Private Property Damage; 113 Motor Vehicle Arrests; 185 Speed Enforcements; 7 DWI Arrests; 0 Seatbelt; 8 Cellphone; 306 Written Warnings; 35 Verbal Warnings. Total calls for service: 2603. Commissioner Cartledge asked if the fingerprint requests are mostly for weapon permits; Chief answered a wide range of reasons - job changes, protected securities, teaching, hospital workers, etc.

TRAINING: Capt. Race reported training in December is usually light due to the holidays. Mandatory Regional SWAT training was held 2 days a month. K-9 training was held during the month; Capt. Race and Chief Drumm had range training to keep up with qualifications. Instructors are in-house; we are bringing Officer Gonzalez in to ERT Training.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR: Capt. Race reported he has had preliminary conversations with the American Legion about the Memorial Day parade; perhaps changing to more of a concert on the fields at Academy School for the bands which would prove to be less traffic obstructive. It is a long parade (blocks traffic for over an hour). Potentially, march through town to honor the veterans and on to the fields at Academy for the ceremony. This parade is coordinated with the American Legion. Biggest concern is students marching to the cemetery and then walking back along Rte. 1. This will be discussed within the next couple of months.

SHARED SERVICES: Chief Drumm reported at some point he would like to invite some of our neighbors for a discussion with a goal to consolidate 911 centers to save money and share resources with neighboring towns. It depends what comes out of the legislature. He would like to partner with a neighboring town to share resources and the State will pick up the operating costs for a large portion of the center and contribute to the remodeling, hiring personnel, hardware enhancements, and equipment. It is very important to find a good neighbor rather than wait to be told who will be our partner. In the spring, with changing officials for example in Clinton, we will discuss this option with them.

CHIEF'S CORRESPONDENCE: In addition to the toys we have donated to town families, today we were thanked by the Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Food Pantries for 350# of turkeys which we donated; this is in addition to all the food we collected to donate to the Madison Food Bank as well as turkeys for their holiday baskets. In the

middle of the night when we receive a call that we have a family in crisis we place them with Family Services. We have great success with area shelters taking displaced families or those in an abusive environment; it is great to give back to the community. They have all been great partners with the community.

TRAFFIC ITEMS: Commissioner Cartledge asked John Iennaco if the Webster Point Road signage has taken place. Mr. Iennaco said there is some signage in place but not the shrub/tree trimming. He was asked to follow up on that.

Pending the issue of crosswalks downtown and signage, we are keeping it up front as best as we can but we have no progress to report on that at this time. Chief said we have been discussing crosswalks for a couple of years. Why can't we set up temporary crosswalks like other communities do? At least in the middle of the block. He asked Mr. Iennaco why we can't do that; Mr. Iennaco replied it needs to be ADA compliant with ramps on each end. Can't just put a painted crosswalk in unless it is ADA compliant on each end.

Chief said we put temporary ones in for downtown merchant events; he is asking for a temporary crosswalk. We have one successfully in front of the Senior Center - it works; Mystic intersections and Branford have crosswalks to cross off the bike paths (Pine Orchard Road, Totoket, Rte. 146 to name a couple), all have several temporary crosswalk signs. How do they do it? Mr. Iennaco said they are on local roads. Chief said some are local, some are State. He continued the State said they will be paving Route 1 - that was 2 years ago. They said maybe they could do some things there - ramp up for a wheelchair. But maybe that's not allowed - maybe part of the curb has to be taken out. Mr. Iennaco said at the median it would have to be cut out; they cannot use ramps/crosswalks since they don't have the distance for the slope. Chief said it's not as hard as you think. We had this with Bradley & Wall and at VISTA. We should do something; he's trying to keep this from being a broken record. What can the town do for prep work at the granite curbs? Take only 2 parking areas on each side; there is a lot of parking in the back. Chief asked what we can do without it being a lot of money; maybe some of the prep work. Commissioner Cartledge added - what if we just cut the granite curbs in the center of town and put crosswalk in the middle where the Chief is talking about. Mr. Iennaco said that might be a possibility - he didn't know we were going to discuss this tonight; we need DOT approval to be compliant; it may not be that difficult. Chief said to try for 1. Mr. Iennaco said if he had been in charge of that project he would have been in favor and certainly would have investigated crosswalks - he wasn't here at the time. Chairman Dowling said what if we draft a letter to the State to say we will plan on installing a mid-town crosswalk, cutting curbs, providing sufficient warning signs, delineating the surface texture going across and working with an engineer until construction is complete and advise we are notifying them of our plan. He doesn't know if that would poke a hornet's nest but it would get us off dead center with the summer tourist season coming up and we're still talking about how to get a crosswalk.

Chief said he did apply to the State; they weren't fond of the plan but they weren't preventing us. It's been explained of costs - wires and water in the center island, we have to ramp up and then down with granite and we're taking 2 parking spaces on each side. He thinks we need to reapply with our intent; tell us what you feel we need to comply to accomplish this and then take that back to your office (Mr. Iennaco).

Commissioner Cartledge asked to attach a timeline to this and by the next meeting he would like some information back from the State to move this forward. Chief said it will/can take much longer, sometimes 30 - 120 days to get it back from the State. Commissioner Cartledge added - if you don't ask, we won't know. Chairman Dowling added the magic word is a timeline, by the next meeting we would ask that you can say here are the 3 things that seem to be practical; (1) cutting the curbs; (2) warning signs; (3) notification to eliminate parking spots (maybe to the Board of Selectmen). Here are the things that need to be done to move this project forward. It's minimal costs or a capital cost, i.e., cut the curbs to sub-contract. Come back with specifics that need to be done. We're all set to do 2 of the items - the warning lights should be installed by the Town and the Board of Selectmen/Chamber of Commerce can approve the elimination of the 4 parking spaces. Then we will have a punch list of things we have to

do. If turned down, who do we appeal to, etc.; hearing nothing we are proceeding with permission from the Traffic Authority. Commissioner Cartledge suggested meeting with John next week to come up with a plan with steps for the February meeting with a timeline. Chairman Dowling added John sketched out Webster Point - it was a clear layout to address problems; John has the technical input from his side and the public input from the Chief and Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Current Issues:** None
- **Ad Hoc School Security Committee:** Commissioner Lee said since the December BOPC meeting there has been no real action; we have had many meetings about the schools and are in the process of working on a report forthcoming in the next month or so. Chairman Dowling added he has heard from interesting and educational discussions ... good.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Lee welcomed the new commissioner, Ann Rumberger - great to have you on the Board.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS: None.

Chairman Dowling said he would like to entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Chief's performance for the 2019 evaluation period.

MOTION by Lee, second by Cartledge to enter Executive Session at 6:26 PM to discuss the Chief's performance for the 2019 evaluation period. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Dowling, Cartledge, Shaw (conference call); Lee, Rumberger

- Personnel Matters (if necessary)
Police Management Performance(s)

Discussion: Chief Drumm's Annual 2019 Performance Review

Return to Open Session at 7:15 PM

MOTION by Dowling, second by Cartledge, based on discussion of the Chiefs performance and market data, to increase Chief Drumm's base salary by \$5,000 effective January 1, 2020. All in favor. None opposed. So moved. 4-0 (Rumberger abstained).

MOTION by Lee, second by Cartledge to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7: 17 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Minutes Accepted: February 13, 2020