

MADISON DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
January 10, 2019
COMMUNITY/TRAINING ROOM – 5:30 PM

Attendees: Chairman Ed Dowling; Vice Chairman Marietta Lee; Commissioner Thom Cartledge;
Commissioner Peggy Lyons; (Conference Call Commissioner Steve Shaw)

Also Present: Capt. Joe Race; Al Goldberg, Board of Selectmen Liaison

Absent: Chief Jack Drumm; Ken Kaminsky, Board of Finance Liaison; John Iennaco, Town Engineer

CALL TO ORDER

Opening and Call to Order at 5:33 PM by Chairman Dowling.

REGULAR SESSION

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Dowling noted Chief Drumm is still recovering and rehabbing from a medical procedure and will be absent for a period of time; Capt. Race will be in charge in his absence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MOTION by Lyons, second by Cartledge to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 13, 2018. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

CHIEF'S REPORT

BUDGET/FINANCIAL: Capt. Race reported the budget hearings begin on 1/26 for the police; Chief Drumm has submitted his request – there a few increases to accommodate shortcomings from previous years – OT investigations and vehicle maintenance have been increased. Chief Drumm extends the life of the cars (still have 2013s on the roads); officers are assigned to specific vehicles. We lease cars for 4 years; Commissioner Lyons asked if we buy out the lease? Capt. Race said it is a secured loan; not sure how the Chief has structured the finances. Chairman Dowling asked if your sense at this point is we are pretty much on point for this budget year? Capt. Race said yes, however the OT line is running short.

The town events which we patrol (fireworks, parades, etc.) are at full staff with state police mutual aid. There are 15,000-20,000 people attending the fireworks. Mr. Goldberg asked if it would be helpful to budget a special line item for special events; isolating the costs of the town-wide events might have everyone understand the situation. Commissioner Cartledge noted this is good will for Madison yet financially it is covered by the Police Department. Chairman Dowling asked Capt. Race what events he is referencing. Capt. Race said the July 4th fireworks, Turkey Trot, parades and buses for the 4th for town transportation. This is definitely a regional event. Mr. Goldberg said he doesn't think Public Works has a separate line item. It would avoid unnecessary questioning to have special lines for these events and demands. Chairman Dowling added there are business solicitations for fireworks. Commissioner Lee said it is all nonprofit Madison organizations which fund the fireworks. We raise \$30-35,000 every year for the show, barge and associated liability insurance. The town supports it but doesn't fund it. Capt. Race added those 24-36 hours are on the town; Commissioner Lee said we have this entity to raise money; we are one of the only towns with fireworks. Chairman Dowling noted if we were to say the fireworks cost us \$22,000 that is one-half an officer. It is a good idea to build this into our budget process; the more accurate we can be relative to the OT the better. Mr. Goldberg suggested he would leave it to the Board of Finance to set up a chart of accounts. Commissioner Lyons referenced the Hammonasset State Park issue - do we have a way to put a dollar figure on the Hammonasset calls? Capt. Race said yes, it is tracked for CALEA; Ed Brunt just ran the figures on mutual aid, Hammonasset, etc. Commissioner Lyons said that would show the burden the Police Department has

to bear during the summer; it would provide transparency as to what we are spending. Capt. Race said the complexity of the crimes we are seeing is not just local; a fraud case could turn federal – credit card thefts – if they are local we go. We have an investigation line but we are chasing people into Branford, etc., recovering cars, processing the paperwork.

Chairman Dowling said there have been discussions about some of the facility needs of this meeting room, not just for the Commission, but this room has a heavy utilization both for the town and for training. If we need a Command Center, currently that room would hold potentially 6-8 people and the technology is extremely limited. The phone system is inadequate; we can't hook up a projector, handle conference calls, etc. With a relatively moderate expense there could be improvements to this room; Capt. Race mentioned the budget train is rolling; there are a number of budget workshops and all the numbers are not firm or set. We need to develop some assessment/estimate to upgrade this room to a basic acceptable level of technology for the 19-20 fiscal year. The room and furniture are acceptable but for the basic teaching aspect, the AV equipment was standard about 10 years ago. He asked Capt. Race to initiate some preliminary estimates to discuss at the February meeting even if that means communicating with the Board of Finance for a place holder number with a caveat, we don't think it is a great deal of money or a capital item. We have been 'making do'; we are at a point to move forward and not wait for the CIP for the 20-21 budget year. Commissioner Cartledge asked if there is anything for certification involved. Capt. Race answered no. Commissioner Lyons said she thinks this is the community room and the town uses it as well; there is only 1 other room in town to hook up a laptop, etc. Look at other budgets in town to share the costs because they all use the room. Chairman Dowling concluded, this is a police budget request but it is not exclusively for the police. Mr. Goldberg reiterated, submit a placeholder number now.

ACTIVITY/STATISTICS: Capt. Race reported through the holiday season we did not have any stolen packages; stolen cars not recently but he asked the public to lock your cars; it is the only way to solve this problem by making Madison a secure town.

TRAINING: Capt. Race reported that on 12/21 Officer Foito and K-9 Starr were certified adding to our K-9 program of Paco/Sgt. Baxter and Decker/Sgt. Mulhern. We now have 2 additional ERT members; Officer Strickland conducted firearms training through Blue Line Corp. which provided the ability to fire active rounds inside a trailer - this is a tremendous situational-based training during which we pair up a Madison and Clinton officer. Officer Strickland runs the round the clock training as an actual situation. Chairman Dowling asked about scoring; Capt. Race explained there is a critique run by Officer Strickland who used this training in New Haven. Capt. Race reviewed several scenarios and simulations for the Board. The cost was split with Clinton; this training is run every other year. We had a total of 491 training hours for December with a YTD total of 3318 hours.

TRAFFIC: Capt. Race reported the major statistic is "Deer Strikes". Be very cautious, especially up north. As a response to Commissioner Cartledge, Capt. Race agreed speed is an issue; officers are working hard, stopping cars. People drive fast and don't pay attention; it is a concern but we are enforcing as best we can.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR: Capt. Race advised we will start to get applications for bike rides; it is quiet right now.

REGIONAL SHARE SERVICES STATUS REPORT: Chairman Dowling noted the report just given regarding training with Clinton relative to shared services; we are still looking at opportunities.

CHIEF'S CORRESPONDENCE: None

TRAFFIC: Commissioner Cartledge commented on the 2018 Traffic Log relating to Sara Labow's request regarding Wildcat Road. As a follow up he asked Capt. Race about the stop sign installation and asked to have an answer by next month. Capt. Race said he drove Wildcat today and found maybe one potential spot. It doesn't look favorable at this point for the sign.

NEW BUSINESS

- Current Issues: None discussed
- Correspondence: None discussed
- Donations to K-9 Fund:
 - Mark Moine: \$100; Edythe Meronek: \$20; Roberto Aguilar: \$365

Chairman Dowling noted the Board makes a verbal acknowledgement but each donor will get a personal note from Christie on behalf of the Chief. These donations are very much appreciated for the ongoing K-9 training and for the animal itself. It is very helpful. In conclusion, Commissioner Cartledge noted Ms. Meronek's check identifies her as being from Guilford and he thanked her.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: None

MOTION by Lyons, second by Cartledge to enter Executive Session at 6:08 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Police Management Performance(s)
 - Discussed Chief's performance and objectives for 2019

MOTION by Shaw, second by Cartledge to increase Chief Drumm's base salary from \$148,000 to \$153,000, effective January 1, 2019. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

MOTION by Lyons, second by Cartledge to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:45 PM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Minutes accepted: March 14, 2019