**MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING**

**Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 7:00p.m.**

**Town Hall Annex**

**66 Prospect Street**

**Anyone requiring special accommodations due to disability is asked to contact Headquarters at 438-6531 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.**

**Commissioners Present:** George Kain, Chairman

 John Frey, Secretary

 Marianne Coffin

Issy Caporale

 Sharon Dornfeld

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz

Major Platt

These minutes are an overview of the meeting; not a verbatim text.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Kain.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Kain requested a motion to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Frey made the motion and Commissioner Coffin seconded the motion.

 **All in favor**

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

1. **COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**
2. **Voicemail**

Commissioner Frey stated a resident voiced concern about the condition of the stop sign on Norrans Ridge. Sign Officer Mark Caswell will address the situation.

Another resident voiced concern about speed on Nod Road/Twin Ridge and Nod Rd/Comstock Court. Suggested stop signs be implemented to slow down the traffic. Commissioner Frey stated he will respond back. Chief Kreitz stated that stop signs are not used for speed control. He added that the department has been conducting speed enforcement details in that area.

1. **Written Correspondence**

Chief Kreitz handed out the 2022 meeting schedule. Due to conflicting schedules, a suggestion was made to move the January Police Commission Meeting date from January 13 to January 20. Commissioner Dornfeld made the motion and Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.

**All in favor**

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
2. **Operating Budget Review and Approval**

Chief Kreitz gave a thorough presentation of the operating budget request. Commissioner Coffin made the motion to approve the operating budget as presented and Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.

**All in favor**

The budget will be presented to the Board of Selectmen.

1. **Officer Survey**

Chief Kreitz gave an overview of the Officer Survey and the responses. He addressed any questions or comments from the commissioners.

1. **Review of Chief’s Goals (2021)**

Chief Kreitz went over his goals for 2021. An update of these goals was presented in June. Commissioner Caporale and Commissioner Frey will represent the commission as they prepare, along with Chief Kreitz, his goals for 2022.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
2. **Public Safety Building - Update**

Chief Kreitz stated that members of the Police Commission and the Board of Selectmen met on December 8th to discuss the proposal from Kaestle Boos. Chief Kreitz stated that a public information session is being planned. He stated that the placement of the building on the Schlumberger property is being reviewed.

1. **CHIEF’S REPORT**
2. **Traffic/Sign Report**

Chief Kreitz stated that after receiving a request to review if a guardrail was needed on a span of Ivy Hill Road between 179-209. Officer Caswell submitted a thorough report which included the accident data for that area for the past 10 years. Officer Caswell’s report noted that there were no accidents in that stretch during that time period. Officer Caswell’s recommendation was to have Town Highway survey the area to determine if guardrails were needed based on roadway characteristics.

1. **Training/PR Report**

The following report was submitted by Major Shawn Platt:

**Ridgefield Police Department**

 **Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report**

**November 2021**

**Training Attended:**

**Nov. 5:** Chief Kreitz, Major Platt, PO Giglio, Capt. Smith, Sgt. Knoche,

 PO Ekstrom, Det. DuBord, and PO Shimko attended

 the annual Firearms Qualification Training at Wooster Mountain

 Range.

**Nov. 29-Dec. 2:** Det. Ryan attended Open Source/Social Media Investigation

 Training held at the Wethersfield Police Department.

**P/R Events:**

**Dec. 4:** PBA Toys for Tots toy drive was held from 10am - 2pm on Main

 Street in front of the Toy Chest.

**Dec. 19:** PBA Penguin Plunge will be held from 11am - 1pm at Great

 Pond. All proceeds benefit CT Special Olympics.

A total of 6 Public Relations were performed during the month(s) to include:

* Various talks with Village shop owners and community members during the Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting.
* Continued stop and talks at houses of worship during Holy Days.

 - Multiple Social Media posts of Police Activities & Safety

 Messages.

1. **Department Statistics**

Chief Kreitz reported the total incidents for the month of November 18, 2021 was 965. He also highlighted some of the statistics for the month. Year to date there have been 11,023 incidents. Last year 13,170 incidents were reported.

Chief Kreitz stated the Ridgefield Police Department has assisted Danbury Police Department with patrol operations during a funeral for one of their officers.

Chief Kreitz stated that the Main Street tree lighting and the Holiday Stroll went off with no reported issues.

1. **Hiring Update**

So far the Police Department has received 38 applications for the 3 open police officer positions. The closing date is January 7, 2022.

1. **UNION PARTICIPATION**

None.

1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - to discuss personnel matters**

**Chairman Kain made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:35 pm to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.**

**All in favor**

**The Police Commission returned to Public Session at 8:44 pm.**

**Commissioner Caporale made a motion to appoint Lieutenant Jeffrey Raines to the position of Probationary Captain from the approved eligibility list. This appointment is to fill the vacancy left by a retirement. Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.**

**All in favor**

**Commissioner Caporale made a motion to adjourn the Police Commission Meeting at 8:45 pm. Commissioner Dornfeld seconded the motion.**

**All in favor**

 Respectfully Submitted,

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 John Frey

 Police Commission Secretary