



Town of Thomaston
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DRAFT

THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011
6:15 P.M.

Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by First Selectman Mone. Chief Torrence, Det. Campbell, Selectman Barrett, Sr. and Selectman Scheppard were in attendance. Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman, was available to take the minutes of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2011 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Monthly Reports:

This was a busy month. Chief Torrence indicated that the total OT hours of 168 were primarily due to officers out on worker's comp. Most of the hours were filled by part-time officers. The 20 hours under "Other" was coverage for winter storm manpower hours and the EOC – mostly Det. Campbell's time.

Dam checks stopped on Columbus Day weekend. We will send out bill shortly.

Alarms were up, but most likely due to storm.

Larcenies were up this month, including the town's light tower generator which was stolen from the town garage. We originally lent it out to the Connecticut State Police for cleanup efforts due to the spill on Rt. 8. There is a \$500 deductible on the town insurance. Purchase price was \$7,800 back in 2005, with the cost now at \$10,247.50.

At the onset of Storm Alfred, the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) was up and running with all key personnel in place for a total of nine days. During this time, key personnel met with the CL&P liaison that was assigned to us and other municipalities for purposes of disseminating important information back to CL&P. We found this very helpful. One of our first priorities was to make sure our elderly residents located in both housing units were safe. Green Manor lost power Saturday and, after an urgent request to CL&P, their power was back up on Sunday evening.

Our emergency shelter, which was located at the fire department, was also a warming and charging station for those who did not choose to stay overnight. Our highest count for one evening was 15 people.

One of the major issues was that our telecommunications failed during the storm. Also, both Durangos had issues – one tire fell off and the communications on the other failed.

All commodities (pallets of water and MRE's) were delivered by the National Guard.

Only two gas stations were open for business; Cumberland Farms and Sunoco on East Main Street, causing lines in both stations for few days. At times, there were unruly crowds at Cumberland Farms and we had to put an officer down there to keep the peace and manage the traffic. There was an extra person from Cumberland Farms as well.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard that a letter be sent to each department expressing our appreciation for how well they performed together under these circumstances. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business:

The Police Department received a letter from Officer Randy Graham dated November 7, 2011 that stated effective November 11, 2011, he was retiring from the department contingent upon review and approval of retirement paperwork received from Human Resources. Discussion ensued.

Det. James Campbell indicated that he would be willing to serve in the patrolman capacity up to December 31, 2011. An MOA between the town and union was signed allowing Det. Campbell to do so.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to initiate the interviewing, testing and hiring process for a full-time patrolman position. Hiring for said position is contingent upon union and town agreeing to new language with regard to post-retirement benefits for new hires. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

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A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard that all letters of appreciation be placed in the individual's personnel records. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Old Business:

None at this time.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.