



Town of Thomaston
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**THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m. by 1st Selectman Maura Martin.

Those present were 1st Selectman Maura Martin, Selectman Hopkins, and Selectman Scully and Lt. Nelson (filling in for Chief Torrence). Also in attendance was Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant to 1st Selectman, to take minutes.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

Monthly Reports:

Detective Campbell submitted his report for two months, September and October.

The radar trailer has been on Walnut Hill Road to monitor speeders since the completion of road improvements/paving in that area.

Dam checks have now ended for the year.

Car No. 4 has been removed from the fleet. Equipment from this car will be removed and installed in the new ones. Lt. Nelson will be making the trip to Massachusetts sometime next week to swap equipment. Car No. 2 is back.

Lt. Nelson attended a meeting of the Light Up the Town Committee to make sure nothing has changed since last year's event.

The police have not noticed an increase in illegal dumping since the partial closure (bulky waste portion) of the transfer station. Only one incident was reported and has since been cleaned up by the Highway Department.

Regular Police Commission Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2009
Page Two

The police have one person of interest so far in the recent rash of residential burglaries.

We have received about \$1,100 for alarm calls that were recently billed out. This money will be put into the general fund.

Old Business:

As a result of testing for a full-time emergency dispatcher, it is the recommendation of the Police Department that part-time dispatcher Jason St. Onge be hired to fill this position.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to offer a conditional agreement to dispatcher Jason St. Onge as full-time emergency dispatcher, pending the successful completion of a background check. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

In last month's meeting, the selectmen asked Lt. Nelson to consult with the D.O.T. to re-evaluate parking in front of and across from the Pizza Pal establishment, indicating any possible options for parking. Lt. Nelson will be sending out a letter to the D.O.T.

New Business:

Lt. Nelson discussed waiving the parking meter fees and fines a bit earlier this year, starting the day after Thanksgiving and continuing until December 31st.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to waive the parking meter fees and fines from November 27, 2009 to December 31, 2009 for shoppers during the holiday season. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

First Selectman Martin has received some complaints from residents in the High Street Extension neighborhood re: speeders now that the road has been repaved. She has made a request for police to run radar in that area, especially during rush hour times in the evening.

Public Comment:

Mr. Yoos asked for a clarification about the D.O.T. study that was being conducted re: parking on South Main Street.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to recess at 7:40 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to reconvene the Police Commission meeting at 10:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

Discussion ensued as to Chief Torrence and Lt. Kris Nelson's employment contracts. It was recommended that Lt. Nelson's title be upgraded to "Captain", provided he perform the same job duties with no increase in pay.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to approve the employment agreement effective on the date of signing between the Town of Thomaston and Kris Nelson. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Scully to approve the employment agreement effective on the date of signing between the Town of Thomaston and Eugene Torrence. Motion was seconded by Selectman Hopkins. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Selectman Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Scully. With all in favor, motion carries.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman.