



Town of Thomaston
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DRAFT

THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011
6:15 P.M.

Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by First Selectman Mone. Chief Torrence, 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 Barrett, Sr. to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2011 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by First Selectman Mone. With all in favor, motion carries 2-0. Selectman Scheppard abstained.

Monthly Reports:

Chief Torrence indicated that May was a busy month.

The radar trailer was out for about 13 ½ hours or 6 days when Plymouth called and asked to use it. They are still in possession of it, but we will get back from them for June.

Accidents were up for this time of year. There were 52 criminal cases with 12 criminal arrests (which included a family violence incident).

There were 23 alarm calls for the month. This is right around where we should be. Scott has been very busy and, therefore, the bills have not been sent out yet. We will need to bring in a part-time person so Scott can concentrate on records. Bills will go out next week.

One of our officers was injured when he was in the process of moving a person from lockup to the ambulance outside the sally port. Due to the fact the ambulance is quite tall, it blocked the sensor lights outside the sally port and, in turn, the lights went off

leaving the area in darkness. There was a bit of confusion between dispatch closing the sally port door and the officer actually having the person secure in the ambulance causing the officer minor injury. This scenario has been documented and the department will work on correcting the procedure so this does not happen again.

Old Business/Parking Meter Update:

Chief Torrence presented a mapping of the business district in the downtown area. The “M’s” on the map signifies where the meters are currently located. There are 46 meters in total.

Chief Torrence and Paul Pronovost, after taking a tour of the area and after discussions with the DOT, concluded that if we remove the meters on Main Street, the DOT will be responsible for erecting the signage. The Town will be responsible for the signs on Park Street and the signs on Union.

Chief Torrence said the Town of Plymouth has a two-hour limit with no time constraints. Our signs would say “8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, with a two hour limit” which would allow people to park after 6:00 p.m. especially when the Opera House starts up again.

Chief Torrence will notify all businesses and property owners of the removal of the meters and the installation of the signs. We will then send on to DOT for their approval.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to install 6 signs (3 on Park Street and 3 on Union Street) at \$150./each no to exceed \$1,000. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

First Selectman Mone will inform the Board of Finance of this decision.

Old Business/Nystrom’s Park Closing Time Update:

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to send to town meeting the request to modify the Nystrom’s Park ordinance to state the closing time of the park as 8:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

New Business:

As a note of interest, in the drug take-back event on April, 30, the Town collected 152.6 lbs.

A letter of appreciation was received from a resident thanking Officer Koval for his time spent making sure the child car seats were properly installed. A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to put the letter of appreciation in the officer’s personnel file and post in the department as well. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Public Comment/Animal Defecation Ordinance:

We received a letter from a resident who would like to see an ordinance established that would deal with animal defecation on town property that would include a fine or penalty. Chief Torrence said there might be a problem trying to enforce this. He suggests that residents come forward and document their complaint to either the Police Department or the Dog Warden. There really is no need for an ordinance.

Public Comment/Parking on Sidewalks:

Chief Torrence said that if someone is parked on a sidewalk and is blocking the egress, they will be fined.

Other Public Comments: None.

A motion was made by Selectman Scheppard to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Barrett, Sr.. With all in favor, motion carries.