



Town of Thomaston

Selectman's Office

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DRAFT

THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Roll Call:

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Commissioner Mone, Commissioner Perreault and Chief Campbell were in attendance. Commissioner Barrett, Sr. was not in attendance. Deborah Bournival, Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman, was available to take the minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance: the pledge was recited by all.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Perreault to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mone. Motion carries 2-0.

New Business/Approval of New Hire/Full-Time Police Officer:

Candidate, Mathew William Gualtieri, has been recommended for hire as a full-time officer for the Town of Thomaston. He is currently a full-time dispatcher for Plymouth and already has a considerable knowledge of our town. He has successfully completed a written examination, oral board exam, chief of police interview, polygraph and psychological test, medical and physical agility test and a complete background check. We had him sign a three-year agreement with us, even though law states he only has to contract for two. He even pulled out of the hiring process with Bristol as he feels he would be better suited for Thomaston.

We will have a swearing-in ceremony either October 3 or 4 so that he is ready for the 455th training session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Perreault to hire Matthew William Gualtieri as recommended by Chief Campbell. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mone. Motion carries 2-0.

Old Business – none.

Monthly Report (short version only):

Chief Campbell indicated that he was unable to do a full report for tonight's meeting, as he has been out doing patrol himself as well due to shortage of officers in department.

Police personnel as of June 30, was seven patrol officers, one detective sergeant, two part-time patrol officers and one police recruit. Sworn full-time staffing level should be at 13. Full-time police staff is currently operating with four vacant positions. Two vacancies are waiting to be filled by hired recruits. One recruit is currently in the academy. Second recruit is on medical leave.

As of June 26, one patrol officer out of seven remaining officers was on administrative leave indefinitely at the time, leaving only six patrol officers and the department down five. However, on September 16, the officer was placed back on active duty.

Due to vacancies seriously affecting staffing levels at a safe operating number, the detective sergeant had been temporarily reassigned to patrol and was working the "C" squad (mid shift). Note: "A" squad is day shift and "B" squad is evening shift.

On June 1, one police recruit began the 353rd training session at the Connecticut Police Academy. Current status is good and all progress reports are excellent and recruit has graduated on September 15 and is currently on F.T.O.

The department has one police recruit beginning academy session in the City of Milford on October 3 with a scheduled graduation date of mid-April, 2017. We currently have one recruit beginning in the October 7 354th training session at the academy.

Application process continues for State of Connecticut certified police officers for full-time vacancies and part-time employment.

Dispatch personnel as of June 31 were three full-time and nine part-time. Full-time staff is currently working at that level with no absences. Dispatch personnel do refer to medical cards when taking 911 calls to try and assist the caller during which time first tone-out to TVAC is made. Dispatcher waits only seconds for a response TVAC personnel then sends second tone-out. If no response, then call to AMR personnel is made. By law, there needs to be at least two EMT's on ambulance.

Animal Control is operating with a shared full-time officer with the Town of Plymouth Police Department and one part-time assistant. This situation has been working out better than previously noted.

All three budgets (Police, Dispatch and Animal Control) are all under expenditure at this time in the budget year (22.4%).

Public Comment – none.

A motion as made by Commissioner Perreault to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mone. Motion carries 2-0.