



## Town of Thomaston

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### DRAFT

## THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016

### Roll Call:

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

Commissioner Mone, Commissioner Perreault, Commissioner Barrett, Sr. and Chief Campbell were present. 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 December 15, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Perreault to move ahead to Monthly Report. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**

### Monthly Report/November:

Monthly Total Incident numbers commonly under this year (2015). First reduction in five years. Not sure why. A lot of cause and effect – cops are more visible so they can be more proactive.

Incident Analysis by Function & Crime Category shows reductions for 2015 in Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property and a big decrease in Crimes Against Society. Quality of Life Crimes has seen an increase this year over others. Investigations and Motor Vehicle incidents are steady. Animal Control was up just a bit.

Discussion of the incident analysis numbers and departmental monthly statistics ensued. Commissioner Perreault wanted to know about pistol permit numbers. Chief Campbell indicated that during the Newtown incident, the number increased considerably and any time gun laws are discussed, permits will rise again.

No training hours for November or December.

Under Total Police Overtime-Other (FMLA), the 56 hours listed was for officer who recently had a baby. Under Communications Overtime, there were four new part-time dispatchers hired who picked up a lot of the overtime hours.

### **Monthly Report/December:**

This was the highest year for medicals. Not sure why. As a department, we have had a lot of Narcan saves. This is an amazing drug that first responders now carry to deal with narcotic (heroin) overdose cases.

Incident Analysis by Function & Crime Category shows reductions in General Function, Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society. Again, Quality of Life Crimes has seen an increase this year over others. Investigations are steady. Motor Vehicles and Animal Control are down with Juveniles up a bit.

Under Total Police Overtime, numbers are lower and in good shape. Under Communications Overtime, we have zero overtime hours to report.

We find that dispatchers stay only for a few years, as this is not a job of longevity.

Police personnel as of December 31, 2015 was ten patrol officers, one detective sergeant, two part-time patrol officers and one police recruit. Full-time police staff is currently operating with one vacant position.

Department is currently processing and reviewing application from last written and oral test given for a reserved seat in the 353<sup>rd</sup> training class at the Connecticut Police Academy beginning in April, 2016. Process continues for State of Connecticut certified officer with no application being received.

Current police recruit was withdrawn from the 351<sup>st</sup> training class of the Connecticut Police Academy starting December 14 due to a medical condition. Recruit has been assigned to light duty within the department until the next available class the recruit is capable of attending.

Communications personnel as of December 31, 2015 is three full-time dispatchers and nine part-time dispatchers. Full-time dispatchers are currently working at a level with no absences.

Animal Control is operating with a shared full-time officer with the Town of Plymouth Police Department and two part-time officers. This setup has been working well. We are actually looking a ways in which we can share communications-tower operations with other towns. More talk of regionalizing.

The Thomaston Police Department was awarded a grant through the Thomaston Savings Bank to replace and upgrade equipment throughout the department's training room, which will also serve as the town's new EOC. The grant was a total of \$2,270. We were able to purchase computer systems, television display screens and the entire installment. The equipment will serve dual roles providing technology to better educate our officers and dispatchers, as well as giving us full access to operate the town EOC alongside the State.

Commissioner Perreault wanted to know if they were running out of room down there yet? Chief Campbell indicated that all is good so far, but that they have added a section in the back of the sally port for an evidence room.

The Police Department has begun the process of a promotional exam for the rank of Sergeant. According to the current collective bargaining agreement (CBA), the department has one vacant patrol sergeant position. According to the CBA, the department must fill that position within 18 months of the vacancy as long as the department is fully staffed (all three shifts fully staffed with no need for overtime). The CBA also states that the promotional exam be supplied and administered by an accredited testing agency. After review of costs and recommendations, the department has obtained the services of Dr. Larry Jetmore of the CT Police Testing Service, LLC. The total cost based on department size for both the oral and written is a total of \$3,500.

The department's on-call supervisor's car, a 2001 Ford Taurus with approximately 110,000 miles, received front-end damage from a structure fire while it was parked at the supervisor's house. Vehicle has been inspected by auto body shop. Both town insurance and homeowner's insurance will cover the repair costs.

As of January 19, 2016, the budget analysis report shows we are at 55.61% expenditure, with Police at 54% expenditure, Communications at 54% expenditure and Animal Control at 21%.

We are now mandated by the State that all officers have body cameras.

#### **New Business/Hiring Approval of Part-Time Officer:**

The department has completed the hiring process for part-time applicant James T. Griffin. Mr. Griffin is a certified State Police Officer currently working as a Master Sergeant for the Capital Community College Public Safety Department in Hartford. Prior to this, he served with the City of Waterbury Police Department for 25 years before retiring in 2005. He has successfully completed all department and state mandated requirements, including written and oral. It is recommended that Mr. Griffin be hired as part-time officer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Perreault to hire James T. Griffin as part-time officer to be used per diem, called in as needed. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

#### **Communications:**

Commissioner Mone read a letter from Nibbling Brook of Carter Road.

**Public Comment** – none.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mosimann to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.**