



Town of Thomaston

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DRAFT

THOMASTON POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015

Roll Call:

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

Commissioner Mone, Commissioner Mosimann, 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 Mosimann to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. to move to "New Business/Executive Session" at 6:03 p. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mosimann. With all in favor, motion carries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mosimann to come out of "New Business/Executive Session" at 6:17 p. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. No action taken.

Old Business: - none.

Monthly Report/December:

Total calls for service for December were 3,362. Total calls for service for the year (2014) were 40,622. Discussion ensued as to other hours.

Commissioner Mosimann asked what the difference was between Homeland Security Checks and Homeland Security on the incident analysis. Chief Campbell indicated that the Homeland Security Checks line is more detailed and goes beyond the contracted hours for dam checks. It includes checks at dams, but also includes checks at power plants and substations, reservoirs, etc. We perform checks 7

days a week, 24 hours a day on multiple shifts. This procedure started just after 911 and we have been doing ever since.

Monthly Total Incident numbers for 2014 show steady consistencies throughout. Total Incident numbers for the past 5 years shows a steady increase.

Under General Functions (which includes general complaints, first responders medical/fire, alarm responding, suspicious incidents, patrol & investigative duties, escorts/prisoner details, 911 hang-ups, civil complaints, warrant service, untimely deaths, homeland security & school security) were up for the year, with Crimes Against Society down significantly. Crimes Against Persons was significantly up, as was Crimes Against Property and Quality of Life Crimes. Motor Vehicle incidents/accidents down, with Animal Control and Juveniles up a bit.

The number of officers on the streets is important. At one time, the department had 3 officers on a shift (i.e. if 2 officers were tied up on a call or writing up a report, the other officer was still out on the road). Lately, we have had to call upon Plymouth to assist with backup due to the fact our department is short-staffed. As of December 31, the department has 10 patrol officers, 1 detective sergeant and 2 part-time patrol officers. Therefore, our full-time staff is currently operating with 3 vacant positions.

We have begun the hiring selection process to fill 3 current vacant positions. The selection process is geared to both certified and non-certified applicants. The department has 1 reserved in the 349th training season and 1 seat reserved for the 350th training session. The department is currently looking for other academy seats with no positive response at this time. Oral boards have taken place for certified applicants and oral boards for non-certified will begin in February. The department is also currently in a selection process for a part-time officer and dispatcher with the potential for 2 applicants beginning training during the week of January 25, 2015.

As of December 31, there were 3 full-time and 7 part-time dispatchers, with all full-time staff currently working at that level with no absences. Dispatch received a total of 162 emergency 911 calls for the month of December. The average length of time to answer these calls was 4.56 seconds. From January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, the total number of 911 calls was 1,698 with an average length of time to answer of 4.55 seconds. This is with one person handling a multitude of job tasks while taking 911 calls – they are doing a fine job.

Commissioner Mosimann asked if it was possible to “crunch” the numbers to show the amount of activity for a department with limited staff on as opposed to those larger communities.

The department received four separate letters from residents commending Officers Jarrod Sauvron and Alex Gallo for their thoroughness and professionalism in handling various situations. A motion was made by Commissioner Mosimann to add these letter of appreciation to their respective personnel files. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

The Police budget is currently at 50% expended, instead of 57.932%. Doing well at this point.

The Communications budget is currently at 61%, instead of 57.932%. We lost a dispatcher so the overtime is higher.

The ACO budget is over at 69%, instead of the 57.932%. Under Professional & Technical Services, we were over as we had two dogs that had to be euthanized due to possible rabies and needed to be tested. Under Repairs & Maintenance, we needed to replace the hot water heater. We gave the assistant ACO's a wage increase as they were making minimum wage and had been for some time.

The department continues to do dam checks. We have kept the same numbers from last year and will check for accuracy in the IRS rates for mileage.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mosimann to keep labor costs same and adjust mileage cost as they are given. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barrett, Sr. With all in favor, motion carries.

Communications – none.

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.