

TOWN OF EAST LYME
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2021

MINUTES

This meeting was held via Zoom online meeting services and was available for the public to view, listen and participate via videoconference and dial-in options.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Price, Giancarlo D'Angelo, Mark Powers and Stephen Rebelowski. Joseph Perkins arrived during executive session.

EXCUSED: Tony Buglione

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Mark Nickerson, Lieutenant Mike Macek and Lieutenant Dana Jezierski

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Delegations

There were none.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Motion by Mr. D'Angelo to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2021, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Powers. Motion passed 4-0.

4. Executive Session

MOTION (2)

Motion by Mr. Powers to move into executive session for the purpose of conducting interviews, and to include Mr. Nickerson, Lt. Macek, Lt. Jezierski and the applicant.

Seconded by Mr. D'Angelo. Motion passed 4-0.

They entered into executive session at 6:04 p.m. They returned at 7:09 p.m. and Mr. Price stated that no formal votes had been taken.

5. Discussion and Possible Action – New Police Officer

MOTION (3)

Motion by Mr. Rebelowski to hire Candidate A.

Seconded by Mr. Powers. Motion passed 5-0.

FILED

April 15, 2021 AT 10:49 AM PM

Brooke Stearns ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

6. Chief's Report

Chief Finkelstein's report is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

7. Lieutenants' Report

Lt. Jezierski reported that she has gathered all the necessary documentation for the body camera grant application and will forward that onto the state for approval once she has all the signatures; she has also been made aware of an available grant for a license plate reader and she is looking into that and will report back. The finance director is in receipt of the ACO's overtime and that will be submitted to Waterford for reimbursement of their portion. Lt. Jezierski

reported that the new schedule is out, and she has been working with the union president to get approval to move forward with the software that will keep track of scheduling and overtime. She explained that the employee will be able to access this program either with their desktop computer or with their phone via an app. The employee will enter their requested time off, and the system will automatically know who is eligible to fill a shift and if they pass it up the system will automatically move to the next person in line. She stated that this program has many more capabilities, but that they will start with scheduling and then see if any of the other features are applicable. Lt. Jezierski reported that she had a very informative meeting at the Law Enforcement Council with POST who sent over their Certification Compliance Officer to review the new training mandates that will be going into effect as of July 1st. She has arranged for a couple of our officers to receive their certification in Human Trafficking through DCF, which is mandated for our officers to receive so now we will have trainers in house. Mr. Rebelowski stated that he is a certified trainer in Human Trafficking if she could use his assistance with anything. A couple of our officers just completed FTO (Field Training Officer) school, which was needed to replace a couple of the officers who have been promoted and moved out of that role. She reported that the State has agreed to fund email accounts for our Dispatchers for one year to participate in the info sharing program that she has spoken about previously; she is awaiting an invoice from our IT department to submit to the State so that they can reimburse us for that expense. Our new officer has started and is getting settled in, and it was noted that our department police for lateral officers are that they ride along with someone for about a month, and then they are shadowed by someone for another month; each person is different and may require more or less time as needed; regardless, all new officers must ride with an FTO on each shift. Chairman Price congratulated Lt. Jezierski for the letter of commendation that she recently received from CGIS.

Lt. Macek reported that they are working with the union to reduce the stipulation for lateral hires that they ride a full 56-hour rotation on each shift, as well as a full 400-hour rotation on all shifts with an FTO, which is the same requirement as for a new hire out of the Academy. For an experienced officer coming in as a lateral hire they would like to consider a reduced stipulation, for example require maybe require only seventy hours instead of four hundred. For all new officers they are evaluated daily, and then again at the end of the cycle and if they require additional time then that will happen and does happen. He reported that the Board of Selectmen approved the MDT replacement appropriation and that it will now go to the Board of Finance; he noted that the Board of Selectmen added that we would try to apply American Rescue Plan funds for this expense as they are for emergency services IT infrastructure and should meet the criteria. If approved by the Board of Finance, installation is scheduled to begin around May 4th which will work in conjunction and just prior to the AXON installation which is scheduled for May 11th. Lt. Macek reported that the regional boat is currently at Crocker's Boatyard having the new generator installed, the bottom painted, and other necessary tasks to prepare the vessel for the season. The Nexgen data conversion is going well, and training is scheduled from the 19th through the 2nd with a tentative go live date of May 24th. He reported that the new Draeger system is on order and expected to be received around May 7th and will be installed in the new building in the processing area. Each of the officers is being trained and their information uploaded into the new AFIS fingerprinting machine which is set up in the lobby of the current police department. Vehicles 102 and 103 have been outfitted and delivered by MHQ; he stated that he will go out to bid for future vehicle purchases and will be working with Strobes and More also. Car 107 is the vehicle that struck a deer and is still at the vendor waiting on an airbag; they believe that they have located one out of state and are pursuing that option which will require pick up by us as air bags cannot be shipped through normal shipping methods. Lt. Macek reported that MHQ neglected to remove the license plates off vehicle and put them on the new vehicle, and in working with the DMV to resolve that issue it was discovered that we are out of compliance with vehicle reporting and he is working with Public Works and the DMV to get that resolved. Regarding this year's Celebrate East Lyme, it was decided that this year's event will be canceled, because there is no safe way to control the amount of people that might attend, especially with this year's Sailfest being canceled. He stated that he has spoken with Hartford Marathon Foundation and they have tentatively scheduled this year's triathlon for August 8th and there will be more information brought forth for discussion and approval at an upcoming meeting. He reported that the Niantic River Bridge project is winding down and should be wrapping up soon. Lt. Macek, Lt.

Jezierski and Chief Finkelstein participated in a birthday car parade to celebrate resident Mary Cahill who turned 98 years old; the event was very nice and well attended. This year's Special Olympics' Torch Run will be held on Wednesday, June 16th; anyone interested in participating please let him know, our leg of the race is from the Old Lyme border to the middle of the Niantic River Bridge where it is then handed over to Waterford. The race spans from Old Lyme through Ledyard. He reported that he and Lt. Jezierski will be attending Collect / FBI training this upcoming month. Lt. Macek stated that he and Lt. Jezierski have been working very well together and they are both keeping very busy and getting things done effectively and efficiently.

8. Chairman's Report

Mr. Price stated that he toured the new building and he reported that the project is moving along nicely, and the space is coming together and looks great. He suggested that the commission members should go over for a tour if they have not done so already.

9. Public Comment

There was none.

10. Commission Response

There was none.

11. Adjournment

MOTION (4)

Mr. Perkins MOVED to adjourn the April 8, 2021, regular meeting of the Police Commission at 7:36 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Rebelowski. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Anderson
Recording Secretary

EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – March 2021



CONTENTS

Section 1 : Noteworthy incidents/information

Section 2 : Staffing

Section 3 : Administrative

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Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents/Information

- New ELPD K9 selected and will commence training this week. Anticipated to be on Patrol in June
- Nexgen conversion in progress
- Axon BWC/In car conversation taking place in May. State reimbursement being worked on with OPM.
- Public Safety building work continues
- Letter of thanks and baked goods from resident whose son had his vehicles wheel fall off and for those who responded to a separate accident writer was involved in (Det. Cavanaugh, Off Watson, Off VanOverloop)
- Letter of thanks for Officers who responded when the writer's elderly mother not heard from for several days. Officers found that she had fallen and rendered aid (Off Santello and Off Warren)
- Letter from the State of Connecticut CJIS implementation staff commending Lt. Jezierski for her extraordinary efforts in bringing the East Lyme Police Department on board with the CJIS network.

Section 2: Staffing

Open position (s) have been advertised via Police App, New London Day, the POST and LEC websites. Process is underway for openings. LEC exam has provided eligibility list for possible academy seats for future openings.

Open Officer position to be filled at this meeting. Officer Hanna began onboarding and field training last week. This will make our agency fully staffed to our authorized force of 26 fulltime Officers.

Review of the past 11 years of staffing shows that 11 Officers have left the agency during that time period. 9 retired/left law enforcement profession, 2 left for the Connecticut State Police, 0 have left for other municipal law enforcement positions.

Our hiring over the past four years in response to expansion and vacancies has resulted in 8 lateral Officer hires from a variety of agencies. Of the 8, 5 replaced retired/left law enforcement, 1 replaced someone going to the Connecticut State Police, and 2 filled newly created positions.

Section 3: Administrative

Accident Analysis

- 17 Accidents
- 5 Flanders Rd
- 3 Main/West Main St
- 3 Boston Post Rd

Animal Control Division Activity

- 9 Animal Incident Calls in East Lyme

Budgetary

- Total Budget – 68% Police, 78% Dispatch, 65% ACO (75% benchmark)
- Overtime – 82% - Largely due to being down one Officer past six months and another for two. Salary line to offset. Dispatch overtime transfer from PD salary to accommodate anticipated expenditures. Over run largely due to extended medical leave and limits to part time availability.
- Asset Forfeiture Balance - \$19,974

Use of force

- No use of force

Emergency Committals

- 4 Emergency Committals
- 0 overdoses
- 0 Narcan use

Special Response Areas

- 1 Calls for service at Rocky Neck Park (3YTD)
- 72 Calls for service at hotels (182 YTD)

**Section 4: Statistical Activity
Summary**

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE- ELPD Dispatch

Calls for Service	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YT
2021	1383	1169	1522										4,074

Note: Includes miscellaneous calls that may not be listed under the call analysis section

CALLS FOR SERVICE—DETAILED

Calls for Service - Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
911 Abandon/Hang Up	82	58	62										202
Alarms	55	38	51										144
Animal Incident	11	15	9										35
Assaults	0	0	0										0
Assist Citizen	38	31	51										120
Assist Other Agency	9	11	20										40
Complaint	28	9	12										49
Disabled MV	13	18	11										42
Disturbance	12	8	11										31
Domestic Dispute	6	5	7										18
Erratic Operation	7	9	4										20
ETOH Person	1	2	1										4
Fireworks Comp	0	0	0										0
Fraud/Ident Theft	3	1	5										9
Larceny	8	10	15										33
Lockouts	11	6	10										27
MV Accidents	9	15	17										41
MV Stops	108	84	179										271
Parking Complaints	2	11	0										13
Patrol/Bank /Building Checks	320	247	392										959
Pistol Permit Apps	24	14	16										54
Psych/Suicidal calls	2	4	6										12
Suspicious Pers/Veh/Incident	24	24	18										66
Threatening	0	0	2										2
Trespassing	1	6	0										7
Untimely Death	2	2	0										4
Well Being Check	14	10	11										35
Vandalism	3	3	2										8

****Selected areas of CFS only****

