**MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

**August 13, 2020 at 5:00pm via Zoom**

**Commissioners Present:** Marianne Coffin, Chairperson

**Via Zoom** Nicholas Perna, Secretary

George Kain

Joseph Savino

**Absent:** Isabel Caporale

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz

**Via Zoom** Major Stephen Brown

These minutes are an overview of the meeting; not a verbatim text.

## The meeting was called to order at 5:02pm by Chairperson Coffin.

1. **Approval of minutes** – Commissioner Perna made a motion to approve the June 11, 2020 Police Commission minutes. Commissioner Savino seconded the motion. All in favor. Minutes of the June 11, 2020 Police Commission meeting approved.
2. **Commission Correspondence**
3. **Voicemail** – none
4. **Written Correspondence** – Chief Kreitz received membership renewals from the Police Commission Association of Connecticut for all the Commissioners. He advised the Commission that he renewed their memberships.
5. **Chief’s Report**
6. **Monthly Statistics** – There were 870 incidents in July 2020.
7. Chief Kreitz highlighted the continuing problem of stolen motor vehicles and larcenies from motor vehicles. He noted that the Detective Bureau follows-up on these incidents and is part of a regional task force addressing the problem.
8. **Sign Report** – No Sign Report this month
9. **Training/Public Relations** – Chief Kreitz highlighted the webinar training sessions that officers attended during the pandemic.

Commissioner Perna suggested an increase in publicizing the larcenies and scam incidents. All agreed this was a good idea.

**Ridgefield Police Department**

**Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report**

**June/July 2020**

**Training Attended:**

**June 8:** Sgt. Murray attended K-9 Training with Loki in various towns.

**Virtual Training attended:**

**June 16:** Capt. Platt attended a 2-hour Webinar training on Police and the Media presented by Daigle Law Group.

**June 23:** Major Brown attended an 8-hour Webinar training on the Use of Force Continuum presented by Daigle Law Group.

**July 17:** All patrol supervisors are completing a 3-hour Web based training Crowd Control and the First Amendment presented by Daigle Law Group.

**July 21:** Chief Kreitz, Major Brown, Capt. Tertian, Capt. Comstock, Capt. Platt attended ALADTEC schedule software training.

**July 23-31:** Chief Kreitz, Major Brown, Capt. Terzian, Capt. Comstock, Capt. Platt, Lt. Gates, Lt. Raines, Lt. Fowler, Sgt. Knoche, Sgt. Gogola, and Sgt. Murray all attended an interactive Zoom Webinar on Officer Resilience presented by Silver Hill Hospital Brigadier General (Ret.) Dr. Stephen Xenakis.

**Public Relations Completed:**

**June 1 - June 30:** Multiple Birthday Party drive by police parades

A total of 11 Public Relations were performed during the month(s) to include:

* Meet and greet at the Boys & Girls Club of Ridgefield
* Multiple Social Media posts of police activities.
* Various talks with downtown shop owners and community members.

1. **Storm Isaias** – Chief Kreitz commended the officers and dispatch staff for their dedication during the storm and recovery. They faced a large number of calls and dangerous conditions.
2. **New Business**
3. **CT House Bill 6004: An Act Concerning Police Accountability**

Chief Kreitz and Major Brown reviewed the elements of the bill and explained their understanding of it.

Chief Kreitz emphasized that some parts of the bill are not going to enacted until 2021 and 2022. He stated that he believes there are many parts of the bill that will be made more clear as POSTC and the Task Force study it and provide guidance.

Commissioners expressed their support for the officers and stated that they would help in any way they could.

1. **Old Business**
2. **Police Revision Project** – Major Brown updated the Commission on this project. He explained the department hired Daigle Law Group to create a single policy manual that contains sound and proper policies and procedures. The manual will incorporate the Union contract and the Rules and Regulations where appropriate. Major Brown is the point person for the department and has begun working with Daigle Law Group on the policy revision.
3. **Body/Dash Camera Discussion** – Chief Kreitz presented Captain Terzian’s study and report on purchasing body and dash cameras. The Commission and the Chief praised Captain Terzian’s report and agreed with his recommendations.

The Commission recommended moving forward with this equipment request in consultation with the town’s Finance, Purchasing, and IT Departments.

1. **Union Participation** – none
2. **Public Participation** – none

Commissioner Kain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Savino seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

SJB