**MINUTES**

**RIDGEFIELD POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

**Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 5:00p.m. via Zoom**

***In accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order 7B, the in-person open meeting requirements for a public agency have been suspended. As a result, the Police Commission will conduct a public meeting remotely using video/audio conference technology in real time.***

**Commissioners Present Via Zoom:**

Marianne Coffin, Chairperson

Nicholas Perna, Secretary

George Kain

Joseph Savino

Issy Caporale

**Also Present Via Zoom:**

Chief Jeff Kreitz

Major Stephen Brown

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

Meeting called to order at 5:03 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Savino made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 13, 2020 Police Commission meeting. Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion. All in favor.
2. **Commission Correspondence**
3. **Voicemail** – Commissioner Perna stated that there was one voicemail message from a resident of Pound Street who wanted to discuss a parking issue. Commissioner Perna tabled the discussion of this issue since it was part of the August Sign Report which was on tonight’s agenda.
4. **Written Correspondence** – Chief Kreitz notified the Commission that he received an invitation from the Police Association of CT for their dinner on September 30, 2020. He will forward this to the Commission.
5. **Chief’s Report**
6. **Monthly Statistics** – Chief Kreitz reviewed the monthly statistics from August 2020. He highlighted the continued larcenies of and from unlocked vehicles. He mentioned that we continue to post reminders to the public on Facebook.
7. **Sign Report** – Major Brown reviewed Officer Caswell’s Sign Report. He highlighted the work Officer Caswell did in August and discussed the parking situation on Pound Street.
8. **Training/PR Report** – Chief Kreitz reported that all officers have been assigned to watch a webinar on the new Accountability Bill so they would be familiar with all changes.
9. **New Business**
10. **Update on Chief’s Goals** – Chief Kreitz reported on the progress he has made on his goals for 2020. The updates included: potential hiring of an officer in 2021, his continued training and professional development, progress on the new evaluation instrument, and IT improvements.
11. **Accreditation Review** – The Department received Re-accreditation once again. Chief Kreitz praised Sgt. Knoche’s efforts on this project. The Accreditation Process is arduous and Sgt. Knoche did a great job. The Chief praised Captain Platt for his supervision of the project.
12. **Building Feasibility Study** – a meeting will be held soon to review the completed study.
13. **Old Business**
14. **Policy Revision Project** – The Policy Revision Project is in progress. A draft of the first chapter of the policy manual is complete. Chief Kreitz, Major Brown, Captain Platt, Sergeant Knoche will begin to review and edit the draft. There are 10 chapters in the new policy manual. We will ask our internal subject matter experts for their input as the project progresses.
15. **Body/Dash Camera Discussion** – Chief Kreitz stated he would like to purchase these cameras and the storage hardware prior to the state mandated date of July 2022. Chief Kreitz continues to discuss the financing and budgeting factors with the First Selectman and the town’s Finance Director.

We are consulting with the town’s IT director on matters such as equipment, storage, and maintenance of a server or cloud type of set-up. Commissioner Savino made a motion to pursue research and funding of the project and to cap spending at $325, 000. Commissioner Coffin discussed the need for conducting due diligence on the ability of the system to handle the department’s needs for memory, storage, and maintenance. After further discussion Commissioner Kain amended the motion to a spending cap of 350,000. Commissioner Caporale seconded the amended motion. All were in favor.

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

Commissioner Savino made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel performance. Commissioner Perna seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Commission and Chief Kreitz and Major Brown went into Executive Session via conference call at 5:39 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 6:02 p.m. and the public meeting continued.

Commissioner Perna made a motion to award Captain Bryan Terzian the Exceptional Service Commendation for his actions during an incident from the spring of 2020. During that incident, Capt. Terzian responded while off-duty and helped an endangered person. All the Commissioners praised Capt. Terzian’s efforts. Commissioner Savino seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Commissioner Kain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Savino seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p. m.