



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

POLICE COMMISSION

MEETING OF THE POLICE COMMISSION Monday, September 11, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman George Moreira
Commissioner Fran Barton
Commissioner Rita Smith
Commissioner Paul Bowler
Commissioner Tom King

Also Present: Chief Patrick Deely
James M. Long, Recording Clerk
Bob Smith, Town Attorney

**Excused
Absence:**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Chairman Moreira leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of July 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Moreira MOTIONED to approve the minutes, SECONDED by Commissioner Smith. Unanimous approval.

Committee Reports:

Building & Equipment:

Commissioner Bowler reported on the new evidence room plans. He will defer to Chief's report.

Budget and Overtime:

Commissioner Smith reported that all is in order, early in the year.

Personnel & Labor

Commissioner King reported on two new job descriptions. Reserve Police Officer and Accreditation Manager.

Rules & Regulations:

Commissioner Barton explained the Tier 1 accreditation process. Two weeks in July 2023. There were five separate assessors who reviewed policies and procedures. POST conducted an onsite inspection on August 10, 2023. The POST C Accreditation Field Consultant inspected: Booking, Records, and Holding Cell(s). Commissioner Barton explained the police department's generator testing and reports. Commissioner Barton explained that the tasks that were required by the five POST- C Assessors were menial and very time consuming. These tasks were very intensive.

Old Business:

Commissioner King reported on a new sign needed on Park Road. The sign could be a “Slow Down Children at Play” type sign. Also, could Public Works trim the overgrown vegetation to allow for easier visibility for drivers. Chief Deely would contact Public Works Director Dan Norton regarding this issue.

Commissioner King made a MOTION regarding the Sign on Park Road. This MOTION was SECONDED by Commissioner Barton, no discussion. Unanimous approval.

New Business:

1. A Scheduled a “Meet the Commissioner’s event” for Police Officers on October 7, 2023 at 6:00 AM. All Commissioners agreed.
2. Commissioner King discussed that there are two new Job Descriptions that need to be voted on in this meeting to forward to the Middlebury Board of Selectmen for approval. Commissioner King explained that the Town had never had a job description for Reserve Police Officer. This issue came up during the Accreditation Process. The second job description is Accreditation Manager. Commissioner Barton made a MOTION to forward the two above job descriptions to the Board of Selectmen. This MOTION was SECONDED by Commissioner King. DISCUSSION by Commissioner Moreira that this needs to be completed. Approval was unanimous.
3. Commissioner Barton brought up several noise complaints from residents from the Brewberry Establishment. Several Commissioners discussed this issue. Chief Deely explained that the Town of Middlebury does not have a town ordinance. Chief Deely further explained that we could only enforce the State of Connecticut Ordinance.
4. Commissioner Bowler and Chief Deely discussed the new evidence room plans. Chief Deely explained the reason why we need a new evidence room. Converting the present evidence room into a juvenile or mental health area as required by the Police Accountability Act. Chief Deely explained that we need to purchase a Connex type container for the impound lot for larger evidence items (a snow blower).
Commissioner Moreira made a MOTION to move forward with plans. This MOTION was SECONDED by Commissioner King. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman's Report:

No Report given by Commissioner Moreira.

Chief's Report at:

1. Accreditation Analysis (Two weeks July 2023) Physical Inspection August 10, 2023. For two weeks in July Amy Von Culin interacted with five separate accessors who reviewed our policies and practices. They provided advice and suggestions which was appreciated and prepared us for the physical inspection. Upon completion of the physical inspection conducted by POST-C (State of Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council) Accreditation Field Consultant Jessica Blank, we appear to be well positioned to obtain Tier 1 level accreditation. This will be confirmed on September 14, 2023. Commissioner Moreira asked Chief Deely regarding the Tier 1 POST- C accreditation process and what were the benefits. Chief Deely explained the benefits are for insurance purposes and that the Police Accountability Act requires accreditation. Several Commissioners asked questions regarding the levels of POST-C Accreditation. Chief Deely and Commissioner Barton explained that we will receive CT POST-C Tier 1 Accreditation on September 14, 2023. We are on schedule to receive Tier 2 Accreditation during the Summer of 2024. This would be followed by Tier 3 Accreditation in the Summer of 2025. The accreditation process would start over. Commissioner Barton and Chief Deely explained that we would not be starting the whole process from the beginning each time.
2. Special Meeting: (Police FOP) on July 31, 2023, regarding Sig Saur P320X 9mm Semi-Automatic Pistol. New measures were implemented. Initiatives started: replacement, timeframe, cost, and training. This was after two recent accidental discharges of the Sig Saur P320X. The meeting was held in my office. The meeting was attended by our firearm armorers/instructors and a firearm's expert who provided advice. With all in agreement I initiated the following steps: A directive was put out for all officers to clean their sidearms on a weekly basis. Heckler and Koch were contacted to provide their product(s) for test and evaluation by our firearm instructors. The cost will be defined to include: the sidearm, ammo, holsters, and training. A time frame will be established. I know the Connecticut State Inspector General's Office has taken an interest in this issue. As of right now, Sig Saur is blaming the cause on human error. Chief Deely answered questions from the Police Commissioners.

Chief Deely explained that the issues with the Sig Saur pistol are attributed to the duty holster. He further explained that the holster and this pistol were not a good match or fit. Commissioner Moreira asked if the Sig Saur company manufactured holsters and Chief Deely informed Commissioner Moreira that Sig Saur does not manufacture holsters. Chief Deely informed the Police Commission that there was a private donor who donated the cost of the Sig Saur pistols. Chief Deely explained to the Commission that we would either trade the Sig Saur pistol in order to reduce the cost of the new pistols or ask Sig Saur to refund the cost of the pistols.

3. Officer Terzigni: Drug Recognition Expert Conference. Officer Terzigni was selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (I.A.C.P) as only one of three officers chosen from Connecticut to attend. This was the Driving and Traffic Safety Conference held in Anaheim, CA. This was paid by the State of Connecticut. The conference took place from August 8th – 12, 2023. Chief Deely explained that Officer Terzigni would be a valuable asset not only for this Department but for other area Law Enforcement Agencies.
4. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training for SGT Kalvaitis. This training will advance SGT Kalvaitis beyond a CIT certified officer to a level where he can train any certified police officer to become CIT certified. This training will take place in Salt Lake City, Utah from September 25th – 28th, 2023. Chief Deely explained to the Commission that SGT Kalvaitis would become a Trainer on this subject and that this would be beneficial to the department and other law enforcement agencies. The Commission agreed.
5. Arrest turned to a medical: Intensive Care Unit (Waterbury Hospital). GA-04 Waterbury States Attorney notified the Inspector General's Office for an investigation to be initiated. Muriel Smith. Prisoner watch of Scott Nelson for Friday August 25 through Monday August 28, 2023. Chief Deely reported the status of the Inspector General's Investigation. The Middlebury Police were not found at any fault and were cleared. Chief Deely explained how the Inspector General's Office works and what their office investigates.
6. Pan Handling Ordinance. Chief Deely gave copies of a possible ordinance for the Police Commissioner's review. Chief Deely explained that the Town of Middlebury needs a Town Ordinance in order to enforce Pan-Handling. Town Attorney Smith brought up that he worked on a Solicitors' Permit with the former Third Selectmen. Attorney Smith suggested that the Pan-Handling Ordinance and the Solicitors' Permit could be combined. Several Commissioners asked on

the status of the Solicitor's Permits. Chief Deely explained that we had issues with the new printer and this new printer ribbon. Attorney Smith will review.

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment

Commissioner King MOTIONED to ADJOURN the meeting at 6:49 PM, SECONDED by Commissioner Bowler. Unanimous approval

Next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

These minutes are submitted subject to approval.

Respectfully,
James M. Long, Recording Clerk