



# TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

## *POLICE COMMISSION*

### MINUTES MEETING OF THE POLICE COMMISSION Monday, October 19, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. Via Video Conference

**Present:** Commissioner Fran Barton  
Commissioner Paul Bowler  
Commissioner Tom King

**Also Present:** Chief Fran Dabbo  
Attorney Robert Smith  
Amy Von Culin, Recording Clerk

**Excused** Frank Cipriano  
**Absence:** George Moreira

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Commissioner Bowler leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Approval of September 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner King MOTIONED to approve the minutes, SECONDED by Commissioner Barton. Unanimous approval.

#### **Committee Reports**

Building & Equipment-No report

Budget and Overtime-Commissioner Bowler deferred to the Chief's report.

Personnel & Labor-Commissioner King deferred to the Chief's report.

Rules & Regulations-Chief Dabbo has been making updates to the policy manual and Officer Dave Jannetty has been a second reviewer, offering suggestions on areas that need improvement.

#### **Old Business**

Commissioner Bowler had a member of the department reach out to him expressing concerns about the high costs of the written sergeant's exam. Commissioner Bowler expressed concern over the fees associated with the written exam and suggested we consider an alternative. Attorney Smith stated the exam procedures must comply with the contract. Chief Dabbo has requested quotes from other test administrators for both oral and written.

#### **New Business**

Commissioner Barton had provided Chief Dabbo with details on the DARE program and offering it again through Region 15. It is unclear why schools in Middlebury are no longer offering the program while schools in Southbury continue to offer the program.

Sgt. Slaiby is a certified DARE officer and would be willing to coordinate the program in Middlebury schools. Chief Dabbo will explore how to introduce the program back into the Middlebury Schools.

Commissioner King informed the commission of a 'Back the Blue' rally being held in the center of town, across from Sunoco gas station, on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, from 11am-1pm. Sgt. Slaiby will have the police motorcycle at the event. The rally is sponsored by the Middlebury Republican Town Committee.

**Chairman's Report**-None

**Chief's Report**

- A. We have 51.8% left in the training budget. We have sent several officers through various training programs including two officers for the instructor program. We will need to obtain virus protection on all the computers as well as a new backup procedure. We are currently pricing out new programs for both of these.
- B. The department was awarded a grant from Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation in the amount of \$3054.28 for the purchase of a new mobile radio.
- C. The two new police cruisers are being utilized. The other two vehicles will become spares with Car 8 moving to Animal Control.
- D. We are working on inserting trunking modems in all the vehicles to eliminate loss of service for the Toughbooks. Those, installed, are at a cost of approximately \$1500 per vehicle.
- E. Power DMS was purchased and some members of the department have begun training on the program. We hope to launch it to all members by January 1.

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

Commissioner King MOTIONED to ADJOURN the meeting at 6:25pm, SECONDED by Commissioner Barton. Unanimous approval

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2020, 6:00pm.

These minutes are submitted subject to approval.

Respectfully,  
Amy Von Culin, Recording Clerk