Board of Police Commissioners
Tuesday February 7, 2017
Meeting Minutes
7:00 PM Town Hall Commission Room

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Bill Brady Chairman, Beth Gralnick Vice Chairman, Woody Bliss on Speaker Phone, Dawn Egan, Peter Ottomano, Susan Moch, Jess DiPasquale and Chief Troxell

Others Present: Dr. McKersie Superintendent, Lisa Deorio Principal Weston High School and SRO Officer Joe Mogollon, Ellen Uzenoff, Michael Scavone Town Resident and Greg Menti Weston Forum

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. SRO Update – Commissioner Brady stated that he understands Officer Mogollon is doing a good job at the schools. Dr. McKersie stated that Officer Mogollon is doing a tremendous job. He is very experienced with SRO Officers when he worked at Greenwich. Weston should be incredibly proud for making the decision to have an SRO Officer. The choice in hiring Officer Mogollon has been superb and proving to be the case in everything I see and witness. While there is a dotted line to me from Officer Mogollon the direct line is in to Lisa Deorio. Most importantly, what you have in Officer Mogollon is someone who truly understands his role as a public servant. Sometimes there are emergencies in town and he has the ability to monitor them so we can actively adjust the school campus security as needed. He has connected us to other agencies sometimes that matter to our youth sometimes educators don’t get the answers but the police can get answers. He is building relationships with all students. Lisa Deorio stated Officer Joe as he is known at the school is so accessible to staff and students so willing to help. Whenever Lisa texts him she gets an immediate answer he is really committed to working with the students, very pro-active in getting different programs. He is also very receptive to new ideas. Lisa stated she feels very blessed to have Officer Mogollon at the school it has made a tremendous difference. Lisa said to the Chief that he was the right choice and an added bonus he speaks fluent Spanish as I started out as a Spanish teacher. The students actively seek him out. Officer Joe’s first goal was to get to know every student’s name and be accepted by students and staff. His 2nd goal was how we are going to make this a successful position. Officer Joe’s 3rd goal is what kind of curriculum do we want to in-corporate. Officer Mogollon attends
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t meetings with the students, he assisted with back to school night and he spoke to the different PTO’s. He also attends the faculty meetings. Officer Joe meets with Lisa once a week at a set time and sees her throughout the day. He also meets with the ESS group Effective School Solutions often. He participates with the District Wide Security Meetings as well. He greets the students when they come in to school and Lisa said there are always students who seek Officer Joe out during the day. He attended the pep rally and did a dodge a cop program (dodge Ball) Detective Powers, Officer Curcio, Officer Cascone, and Officer Marsili also participated. There was one Officer per team with kids so we are actually working with the kids as part of the team. We had fifteen teams we also had Police Officers from Ridgefield that assisted. We did a program twenty six days of kindness program which was leading up to the anniversary of Sandy Hook one of the teachers and Lisa implemented. He also attends every home football game. In October we did a save a life tour with a grant from the Department of Motor Vehicles and Transportation we brought in simulators to show how texting affects your driving. The kids really enjoyed that they were able to see that in real time, the dangers of driving while texting. Officer Mogollon also did a program for grade 5 on cyber safety how to use online technology safely. He will be doing that for every grade. Some of the health teachers have contacted him to get involved in substance abuse talks. Also in May he will be doing a senior seminar on how can I be safe when I go to college? Commissioner DiPasquale asked what kind of feedback have you gotten from the parents? Officer Mogollon stated he has gotten very positive feedback. Commissioner Brady asked is there a need for an additional SRO Officer in the future? Lisa Deorio said Officer Joe has primarily been at the High School but today he had to go to the Middle School and then to the Intermediate School we end up losing him for a day he is such a viable resource. Commissioner Brady stated when Officer Mogollon needs to go to after school meetings he believes the schools should pay for that overtime. Dr. McKersie stated that he has spoken to the Chief and we are looking into it.

3. Consideration/Approval January 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Brady made a motion to approve the January 10, 2017, Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Moch moved, Commissioner Egan 2nd, motion passed.

4. Police Department Renovation / Updates / Status – Commissioner Gralnick did a cost analysis of what the new plans would cost and it would be about one million dollars. Commissioner Brady stated they are going to have another meeting Monday Feb. 13, 2017 with the 1st Selectman Nina Daniel, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Chief Troxell, Officer Miceli, Sgt. Brodacki and Sgt. Daubert, Commissioner Brady and Commissioner Gralnick. The building committee is having a meeting February 15, 2017.

5. Chief’s Report – Current Monthly Reports the Chief went thru the overtime and updates. Budget – the pickup truck was cut from the budget. The overtime line was increased to $285,127. It was based on a three year average. The Police Department received two donations from The Dana and Steven Spencer Charitable Fund for $300.00 and another one from Pamela and Dallas Kersey for $200.00 which we will put it to use for equipment. Commissioner Brady made a motion to approve the donation, Commissioner Moch 2nd, motion approved.

The Chief stated the Police Department had a case where three people were arrested we took in custody of $7,500.00 in cash, from that case we handed it over to the State and we
were awarded an asset forfeiture payment out of that money. The State takes a certain amount and then the remainder is given back to the Municipality who made the arrest $5,299.00 in asset forfeiture. There are a couple of stipulations on it. Fifteen percent has to go towards a Drug Education Program which is $794.80. The other 85% has to go toward drug enforcement which is $4,504.15. The Chief recommends crime prevention Detective Powers will be able to utilize that money. We can come back to let you know his ideas for that.

Commissioner Gralnick made a motion to approve the asset forfeiture payment in the amount of $5,298.95, Commissioner Egan 2nd, motion passed.

Additional Business for Commission Consideration – None at this time.

Other Updates

Commissioner Brady asked Commissioner Jess DiPasquale if he would like to do Citizen of the Year Program he said he will do it. Commissioner Jess DiPasquale will put an ad in the Weston Forum. The event will be in June.

Michael Scavone town resident was talking about the speeding on Lyons Plains Road the Chief said he will remind patrol to monitor Lyons Plains road with a radar gun.

Commissioner Brady made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:55 PM, Commissioner DiPasquale moved, Commissioner Moch 2nd, motion passed.

The Commission came out of Executive Session at 11:05 PM and adjourned at 11:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Gunshor
Police Commission Recording Secretary
Approved 3/7/17