



SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

11 Franklin Street
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-2891

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020 6:30 P.M. ZOOM teleconference

Members present: Robert Koskelowski, David Bitso, John Duke, Thomas Bennett and Kyle Kelley. Also in attendance: Chief Satkowski, Deputy Chief Rinaldi, Officer Oczkowski, Det. Ditria, Town Attorney LeClerc, Det. Matusovich, Cmdr. Fappiano, Union Attorney Bento, Officer Thomas, Det. Jasmin and Attorney Proto.

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Koskelowski
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** was led by Chairman Koskelowski
3. **Public comment:** None.
4. **Approval of regular meeting on April 15, 2020:**
David Bitso/Thomas Bennett motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 5:0**

Approval of special meeting on April 29, 2020

Kyle Kelley/David Bitso motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 5:0**

A moment of silence was held for:

former First Selectman Daniel Brandon
retired commander of the VFW Post Al Yagovan
former Board of Public Works member John Chucta

5. David Bitso/John Duke motion to go into executive session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. In attendance: The Board and Attorney Proto. **Motion: 5:0**

David Bitso/Kyle Kelley motion to come out of executive session at 7:42 p.m.
Motion: 5:0 No votes or motions taken.

6. Management report: Chief Satkowski-budget looks good-getting to the busy season, will be short on projected income, Memorial Day parade and Pumpkin Festival have been canceled, last day of parades with over 200 parades taken place, Veterans Parade Monday, May 25th, great support from the community, Commissioner badges and wallets distributed, business cards for officers being finalized, one officer had a minor motor vehicle accident, training on line as classes have been canceled, maybe open up fingerprinting soon, air conditioner not working, SRO's have been reassigned to patrol, one officer coming back to work and thank you to the custodians for all the work they have done in the building.

7. Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Kelley-Can there be more patrol on Bunting Road-concern about speeding.
Chief Satkowski-We can place time mark there and step up enforcement.

8. Old Business:

Update on IA's

Chairman Koskelowski-We received a copy of the IA's pending and completed, one employee-as Deputy Chief-did more than one IA per month-how did he handle his duties? I believe 8 of those IA's could have been handled by the Chiefs office, will have discussion on what constitutes an IA, brought up for information only-not to criticize.

Chief Satkowski-That was part of his duty, 12 out of the 17 cases from 2019 came to us either by civilian complaints or officers writing up complaints, we don't go looking for IA's, I look forward to further discussion on this so we can have a better understanding, we have no control over many of these, times have changed with transparency.

Commissioner Duke-Is there a problem with the server?

Chief Satkowski-We have had issues with the email server-Rob Dyer and Det. Matusovich looking to get us onto the Town server.

9a) Patrol reports: Board accepts the reports.

Chairman Koskelowski-Only 13 motor vehicle stops for April, the State Police have a new protocol of handling motor vehicle stops-is this something we can look into? Safety of the officers and public comes first.

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-I can look into the new protocol the State Police are doing, we have improved our motor vehicle stops in recent weeks, as far as approaching the car depends on what the academy teaches, a hit and run is a misdemeanor, we had a spike in domestic calls and car break-ins in April.

Commissioner Kelley-I was under the impression during the months of March and April that interaction would be limited for motor vehicle stops.

Commissioner Bitso-Agree that we had to take precautions but can we approach from the passenger side instead of the driver's side for more social distance? Is a hit and run a felony?

Commissioner Duke-Had a complaint from a State Representative in town regarding reckless drivers in the Great Hill area.

Chief Satkowski-We did say in the beginning of this virus to limit the interaction but we are starting to get back to normal and if there is only property damage there is no pursuit.

9b) Detective report: Board accepts the report.

9c) K-9 reports: Board accepts the reports. **Officer Oczkowski** reports that the vest for Officer Gallo's K-9 has been ordered, the vest for K-9 Zoar has been put on hold as the individual donating the money-his company has not been up and running due to the virus, Officer Gallo got two Narcan kits donated for K-9's and in service training payment is due July 1, 2020.

9d) SRO reports: No reports.

9e) Car Report: Board accepts the report. New cars have been lettered and equipment has been ordered.

Chairman Koskelowski-Are we making sure all cars are uniform? Did we go out to bid for new vendor to repair cars? Are we satisfied with present vendor? Chief to check into another vendor, maybe public works could do simple repairs?

Chief Satkowski-Yes all cars should be uniform. Spoke with different vendors-nothing done officially-weighing our options. I think we need to make some decisions come July, as soon as a car has issues-it comes out of service so no officer's safety is ever jeopardized. There is no yearly contract-we have been with the current vendor for 15 years, there are a few garages either in town or outside of town that we have been looking into. Public works does not have the manpower and facility-checked into that last year.

Officer Oczkowski-We have had several issues with current vendor and not just minor stuff. Hope that we really take it serious to look into another vendor.

Commissioner Bitso-Do we have a yearly contract? If not should go out to bid yearly, there are a lot of garages in town.

10. New Business: ATV

Chairman Koskelowski-We received three quotes from the Chief regarding an ATV, ambulance and fire have ATV's, I believe this was brought up a few years ago when tornado came through, table this until next month, what equipment should we be updating-get a list together for next meeting-what equipment is a priority, I don't want to not lose the money either.

Commissioner Kelley-Ambulance has ATV-used for rescue, emergency management ATV is not really set up for other than carrying equipment. I like the idea and do see the value in it but we have trouble finding a decent Polaris mechanic-table this until the next meeting maybe getting something similar from a different dealer maybe John Deere.

Commissioner Bitso-Was in favor of an ATV last time this came up but now I have changed my feelings as events have been canceled for this year, I would like to table this given current state of affairs. I don't think we would get the use in the next 12-18 months.

Commissioner Duke-I own several Polaris products-they do require maintenance-have trouble finding a mechanic-expensive to maintain-maybe look into different manufactures.

Chief Satkowski-I brought this item to the Board in December 2018-the vehicle would be 4-wheel drive-road ready-one to two people can be in the vehicle-the town has one that is 16 years old, homeland security recommends departments have ATV, we received \$ 5,000 from FEMA to be storm ready-Polaris is the better deal for the money-made for emergency use-can be used year round. John Deere was researched they have teamed up with IAS-that quote is in your packet. I feel this would benefit the community.

Kyle Kelley/Thomas Bennett motion to table this item until the next meeting. **Motion: 5:0**

11. Correspondence:

Letter from Poeta family-thanking the family for a parade.

Letter from Griffin Health thanking all involved for a parade for the staff.

Commissioner Kelley-As of today, we are done with parades. Collectively all three services participated.

Chairman Koskelowski-Was beautiful to see the parades in town and thank you all for doing that.

12. Other Business:

Commissioner Bennett-The budget ends June 30th? What is the money in line item 740 used for? What happens to the money if it is not spent? Where would the money come from for the ATV?

Chief Satkowski-The money in line item 740 would be for detective supplies-equipment that breaks, there has been a budget freeze since January, if money not spent goes back to general fund, the money for the ATV would come out of the Community Account. Equipment money would come from 740-items for cars comes from 745.

Commissioner Kelley-For next month's list of equipment-can we look at some department wants vs needs that we would normally go through the town for.

Chairman Koskelowski-What line item do we buy equipment from? Do we have a special line item?

13. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bennett-if the department needs something they should definitely buy what they need.

Commissioner Duke-commend the men and women of the police department for all they have done during this crisis.

Commissioner Kelley-I echo what Commissioners Bennett and Duke said.

Commissioner Bitso-we should spend the money-stock up for emergencies. Also commend all emergency departments-did a great job over the past few months. The IA report was helpful-can we get that on a monthly basis?

14) Union Business:

Union President Officer Oczkowski-IA report received-need time to review and would like to ask Board for extension if we file any grievance to next month's meeting.

Looking to do a private duty agreement with Derby Police Department-same as what we have with Ansonia.

Equipment ideas on the Union side-portable chargers for vehicles, chargers for flashlights, radar units, get feedback from members regarding what equipment is needed and on the K-9 side would like to buy another bite suit.

Chairman Koskelowski-If the Union has a list of equipment please give to the Chief.

Kyle Kelley/John Duke motion to place on the table the request to extend the grievance deadline to our next meeting. **Motion: 5:0**

Commissioner Kelley-What is the Union asking to table? Is there a deadline? Chief was there ever a time you took discipline on someone and there was no Union rep there? Is the Union saying that anytime discipline was taken against a union member you did not know about it? If so, why did the Union not ask about it a year ago?

Union President Officer Oczkowski-Right now there is no grievance, however, we have not had a chance to review the final findings that was turned over with the IA report. The timeline is 21 calendar days. We did not know about the discipline in writing and some not at all, I have asked about these IA's several times.

Chief Satkowski-If any action was taken the officers were well aware-they were asked to bring Union representation, there was never a time I gave out discipline with no Union representation by the officers choice.

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-It is correct that the Chief always asks the officer if they want Union representation.

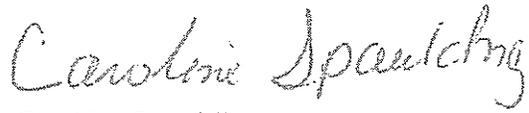
Union Attorney Bento-There's a difference between a member of the union seeking representation versus when discipline is actually handed out, when discipline is handed out the Union has to be given notice as well as it is part of collective bargaining, we may not have an issue with these we are just asking for an opportunity to look this over.

Kyle Kelley/David Bitso motion to extend the Unions right to the grievance deadline to our next meeting. **Motion: 5:0**

Chief Satkowski-I spoke with the Derby Police Chief- right now he does not want to do anything with the private duty agreement as it is bad timing with the virus and he wants time to review it.

15. ADJOURNMENT: Kyle Kelley/David Bitso motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m. **Motion: 5:0**

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline Spaulding
Recording Secretary