



SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

11 Franklin Street
Seymour, Connecticut 06483-2891

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021 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, Town Attorney LeClerc, First Selectwoman AnnMarie Drugonis, Union Attorney Bento, Cmdr. Fappiano, Officer Santanelli, Rory Burke and Det. Ditria.

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 6:32 p.m. by Chairman Koskelowski
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** was led by Chairman Koskelowski
3. **Public comment:** None.
4. **Approval of special meeting on December 16, 2020**
David Bitso/Kyle Kelley motion to accept the minutes. **Motion: 5:0**
5. **Management report: Chief Satkowski**-current budget looks good, budget summit was held, looked at Skokorat/Barn Hill request-have reviewed and spoke with Town Engineer to maybe extend sidewalks-will have further studies in the spring-patrol will continue to monitor traffic, meeting held with residents from Rolling Hills area regarding their concerns, one officer that was on light duty has returned to full duty, one administrator position open, Inspector position unfilled, one employee will be out for several weeks on sick leave, one employee is quarantined to Covid as a precaution, one employee out due to personal circumstances, SRO's delayed because school was delayed in opening back again, security at the Community Center with Covid vaccine distribution and police presence has increased for town buildings regarding circumstances in the world.

6. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bennett-did we miss the election of officers for our Board?

Thomas Bennett/John Duke motion to place on the agenda Election of Officers. **Motion: 5:0**

Thomas Bennett/John Duke motion to nominate Kyle Kelley as Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners. **Motion: 4-0-1** Kyle Kelley abstain

John Duke/David Bitso motion to nominate Thomas Bennett as Vice Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners. **Motion: 4-0-1** Thomas Bennett abstain

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Thomas Bennett/David Bitso motion to nominate John Duke as Secretary of the Board of Police Commissioners. **Motion: 4-0-1** John Duke abstain

Commissioner Duke-thank you to Bob and Dave as Chairman and Co-Chairman-think they were valuable in our mentorship and wish new Chairman and Co-Chairman best of luck as we move forward.

Chairman Kelley-will do the best I can, thank you to the officers who were at the incident involving a resident in cardiac arrest-the patient is doing well.

Commissioner Koskelowski-thank you to First Selectwoman Drugonis for being at our meetings every month.

7. Old Business:

Evaluations Update

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-waiting for outside agency to finish one and one will have to wait.

Training Update

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-officers have been doing on line training, one officer went to FTO Liability training, baton/handcuff training will be upcoming, majority of officers have been trained for racial/bias and human trafficking, refresher course on taser training and six officers did on line training for use of force seminar.

Commissioner Duke-where are we at for racial/bias training?

K-9 Car

Chief Satkowski-still waiting for delivery-expected last week of January-first week of February, reviewing Ford Interceptor Explorer-I think that would be a better option, trying to come up with a solution, car 9 ready to go just a matter of the back cage and hop pop system.

Chairman Kelley-can we use last Ford Interceptor ordered if it is not completed yet?

Commander Fappiano-vendor has vehicle stripped-most of the wiring is in place, sounds like K-9 officer prefers Ford Interceptor Explorer, I will speak with vendor right now K-9 equipment is approximately eight weeks out.

Commissioner Duke-would it be a good time to hold off doing any more on that vehicle instead of stripping another vehicle down the road-put this one on hold until we can get it outfitted?

Commissioner Bitso-the Explorer that is in right now is being outfitted? That would fit K-9 need size wise?

David Bitso/John Duke motion to add the allocation of a K-9 vehicle to the agenda. **Motion: 5:0**

David Bitso/John Duke motion that we make the new K-9 unit for Officer Gallo-the new Explorer that is being outfitted as we speak. **Motion: 5:0**

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K-9 Officer Oczkowski-thank you, still working on fund raising for equipment, can we place on the Facebook page? Approximately \$ 3,000 for the box that needs to be secured, approximately \$ 4,500 for the hop pop system and cage, yes the dog is cross trained, if we can order then see how much we can fund raise and then make up the difference this way it wouldn't hold up the process.

Commissioner Bennett-what is the cost for the system? Is this dog cross trained for drugs? Can we use drug forfeiture money? How much is in seizure account?

Chief Satkowski-seizure account has approximately eight-four thousand, we try to do grants or fund raisers-anything outstanding after that we can dip into the seizure account.

Chairman Kelley-can we make up the difference if they don't fund raise enough?

First Selectwoman Drugonis-we can put on the Town Facebook page also.

Inspector Position

Chief Satkowski-reading list sent to all eight candidates, written test is March 15, 2021, oral test will be a week later, officer responsible for obtaining the material-not sure what the books cost, the department cost is between \$ 1,200 - \$ 1,500 for the testing process, yes it is normal for officer to purchase study materials, we are following the collective bargaining agreement that states the cost of the exam will be paid for by the department, we are not budgeted to reimburse officers for promotional materials, test is geared to the material in the books, specifically to our department will be more in the oral exam, standard practice for these exams, the officers will use the material learned no matter where they go, purchasing one set of books make copies of chapters-not sure if that is feasible.

Commissioner Bennett-is there a cost to the officer for the test? What is the cost for the testing process to the department? Not used to having officers pay for study materials-is that normal? Has the Chief reviewed the material that has been sent out? Do the study materials pertain to the Seymour Police Department? Not sure if any of those books written would be geared to the new laws in Connecticut, I would have liked to see the test being on policy and procedures for our department and the new Police Accountability act.

Commissioner Duke-I am also surprised that we are making candidates pay for the materials-if the costs are high can deter the candidates from taking the test-can they be reimbursed if they come out with a passing grade or meet certain criteria? I think it's highly unfair to penalize for promotional material. Moving forward base these tests on our department not other departments.

Commissioner Bitso-I heard up to \$ 600 for books-seems high to me.

Chairman Kelley-if we do reimburse officers now for this test others will be looking for it that would be my concern, same practice any other department were to use if they used South Central? Next promotion we can have discussion as a Board and Chief and look at what we will be doing test wise.

Commissioner Koskelowski-others that went for promotional exams in the past had to pay for their own books, I would not be in favor as we have not done it in the past, maybe the books can be bought together by a few officers and save money, still valuable lesson taking the test and getting the knowledge will make them a better police officer whether they get promoted or not.

Covid Protocols

Chief Satkowski-nothing new on protocols-several officers were affected. Employees have been surveyed as to who wants the vaccine and the department has been registered.

CPO Position

Chief Satkowski-nothing has changed, still on hold.

7a) Patrol reports: Board accepts the reports.

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-rash of break-ins-arrest warrant filed, fatal accident on Route 67 at North Street and on one Clinton Road will be closed out soon.

Chief Satkowski-commend third shift-they have been very active-several weapons found in a car-person has a history of weapons and drug activity.

Commissioner Bennett-nice job to all, thanks Deputy Chief for making training a priority.

7b) Detective report: Board accepts the report.

Deputy Chief Rinaldi-keeping busy, Lake Housatonic incident from last year will be closing soon, everything has been working out very well.

Chairman Kelley-how has everything been going with the lack of Inspector and Deputy Chief?

Chief Satkowski-struggling-not as effective with 50% of work force down-trying to make it work but not as efficient, would like to see those positions filled sooner rather than later.

7c) K-9 reports: Board accepts the report.

7d) Car Report: Board accepts the report.

8. New Business:

Commissioner Bennett-how do we get an update on all the IA's in the department? Are you overwhelmed with IA's that are going on? Do you have enough resources?

Chief Satkowski-working on yearly report, Deputy Chief currently investigating some, we try to meet all the timelines, we might need to reassign some of the IA's to speed up the process.

Grooming Policy

Commissioner Koskelowski-memo signed off by First Selectwoman Drugonis and Union. First Selectwoman can sign off but under the Charter the Board is in charge of policy-we can say we don't like it and resolve it-can Attorney LeClerc explain?

Town Attorney LeClerc-First Selectwoman can sign off as head of personnel, First Selectwoman is responsible for negotiating addendum to contract, Board can enact certain policies.

Chairman Kelley-agreed as a Board to be referred back to negotiating team for the contract.
Commissioner Duke-I believe that it came to the Board because it came to a stale mate-we kicked it back as we are not part of the negotiating process.

Commissioner Bitso-I do remember that those items were not a part of the contract-just a policy attached to the contract.

2021-2022 Budget

Chief Satkowski-budget straight forward, salary accounts up to meet contractual obligations, money might be saved by comp time policy which is being enacted for one year, training account up due to mandatory house bill 6004, vendor items have increased, everything else is at last year's money, two cars taken out at this time-maybe purchase end of fiscal year if any money is left over, budget has to be presented to Town Hall by Friday, February 1, 2021.

John Duke/Thomas Bennett motion to accept the budget as presented and forward to Town Hall. **Motion: 5:0**

9. **Correspondence:** resident from 65 Woodside Avenue sent thank you letters for Officer Pinto and Officer T. Martin for their actions and assistance.

10. **Other Business:**

Commissioner Duke-resident from Stoddard Street would like to know if we sell any cars that are impounded?

Chief Satkowski-we do not handle that as most of our stuff is evidence, our surplus cars go to Town Hall departments, they may go to DPW to store and go to public auction which happens once every few years.

Commissioner Bitso-where do we stand with supernumeraries?

Chief Satkowski-we have received one resume for full time officer-nothing for supernumeraries, we did apply for some academy seats.

Commissioner Bennett-where do we stand with the Board emails instead of using personal email for Board material? I see the Chief is sending out his weekly report on a Saturday night-I would rather see him spending time with family and Monday would be acceptable-the Chief gives enough time during the week.

Detective Matusovich-Town Hall doing major server infrastructure changes, current server is running out of space for emails, current vendor went up in price, anticipate being done before spring time.

Chief Satkowski-I consider myself always working, I try to get out the information by end of week.

11. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Koskelowski-will there be a special meeting next week?

Chairman Kelley-I will touch base with Town Attorney LeClerc.

Commissioner Duke-thank you to all patrol- keep up the good work.

Commissioner Bennett-excellent job by all patrol.

Chairman Kelley-have seen patrol out there, thank you Commissioner Bitso and

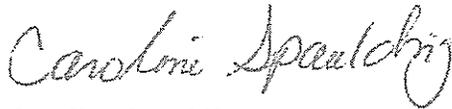
Commissioner Koskelowski for their time served as officer rolls on the Board.

12. Union Business: None.

13. ADJOURNMENT: John Duke/Thomas Bennett motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Motion: 5:0

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline Spaulding
Recording Secretary