



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470
TEL (203) 270-4256
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Brian Budd
Scott Ciccari
Julia Conlin
Rance Thompson
Philip Cruz

POLICE COMMISSION

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 6:30 P.M.
191 South Main Street, Newtown, CT
Conference Room

MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners Present: Brian Budd, Scott Ciccari, Julia Conlin, Philip Cruz, Rance Thompson

Also Present: Chief David Kullgren, Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop, Officer Maryhelen McCarthy, Traffic Unit Officer Leonard Penna, and one member of the public.

Commissioner Budd called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

Bill Vayan shared a picture from the 1960's.

Police Union Participation

None

Consideration and Action on Minutes: Commissioner Thompson moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of March 5, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Motion passed (4-1-0) Commissioner Ciccari abstained.

Chief's Report

44 personnel, one on light duty, one in training, one on military deployment, and one vacancy. The effective strength is 41. Patrol canine had emergency surgery with a recovery time of 2 weeks. Community Service Traffic side received grant funding which was used for portable electronic speed signs. The signs are used as an educational tool for residents to realize what the speed is in areas that have had speed complaints. Traffic Unit Officer Penna explained how the portable speed signs work and how they are utilized. The signs are typically used from April to October or November. The signs are battery-operated and last about two weeks; there are battery backups, so the signs can be used continually.

Old Business

Hall Lane Trial from March-July

Traffic Unit Officer Penna stated that the signs are installed on Hall Lane, and the trial period will run at least thru July 15, 2024. The residents he talked with agreed with the signs. There was a preliminary study done on Blakeslee. There was not a significant increase to the traffic on Blakeslee, another count will be done further into the trial period. There have not been any complaints submitted on the conversion to Hall Lane being made one-way but there have been inquiries as to the reasoning for the signs.

New Business

Review of Department Policies, discussion and possible action

Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop presented General Order 3.19 – Speed Measuring Devices. This is now a standalone policy to meet accreditation standards to ensure the following of manufacturing suggestions with guidelines for calibration and testing of devices. All operators will be trained on the use of the devices.

Commissioner Budd made a motion to accept the updated policy of General Order 3.19. Seconded by Commissioner Thompson. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Correspondence

Chief Kullgren stated that a letter was received from former Police Commissioner Chairman Paul Mandifico praising the department on its professionalism at the recent retirement for Sergeant Jeff Silver. The Town of Greenwich sent a letter of thanks for the motorcycle officers assistance during a parade (see enclosure). A letter was received thanking Officer Penna for assistance at a funeral in Brookfield. Emergency Management Director for Danbury sent a thank you letter for drone support during a recent protest. A letter was received from a resident thanking Officer Figol in regards to a missing 12-year-old daughter and the care that she gave until the daughter was found. Commissioner Budd read a paragraph from the letter. The resident wrote *'they would like to recognize one individual that stood out during this traumatic time. Officer Figol was not only instrumental in coordinating efforts and relaying important messages over the radio but also provided us with much needed reassurance and calm and professionalism, empathy, and dedication that was truly beyond our expectations'*. Copies of all letters go into the officer's personnel files. Commissioner Cruz commented that an excellent job was done at the retirement party.

Commissioners' Participation

Commissioner Budd commended the staff for a job well done on the awards ceremony, as well as being impressed by the number of individuals that attended. Commissioner Budd asked if there were any follow up questions on operational issues from the newer commissioners. These follow up questions will be discussed further in the Executive Session.

Executive Session for Policies and Personnel Matters

Department Policies

Appointment of probationary police officer

Commissioner Budd made a motion pursuant to 1-200(a) to move into Executive Session to discuss department policies and appointment of probationary police officer and to invite Chief Kullgren and Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop. Commissioner Cicciari seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting entered Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. Commissioner Budd made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to open session at 7:46 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Budd made a motion to approve Newtown Police Policies 5.25 and 5.26 with the removal of the covert operations manual from the policy as discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Cicciari. Motion Passed. All in Favor.

Commissioner Budd made a motion to offer candidate Kling a position as an entry-level probationary police officer with the Newtown Police Department starting on April 18, 2024 as discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Motion passed (4-1-0) Commissioner Cicciari abstained.

Adjournment: Having no further business, Commissioner Cicciari motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners at 7:47 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Conlin. Motion Passed. All in Favor.

Dana Ulibarri, clerk

Enclosures

Chiefs Report
DB Activity Report
Incident Statistics
Training Report
March Correspondence

Chief's Report

Police Commission

04/2/2024

Personnel Report:

- Department Authorized Strength - 45 personnel
 - Light Duty – 3 personnel
 - Field Training – 0 personnel
 - Military Deployment - 1 personnel, w/ USCG
 - Vacancy - 1
 - Retirement - Sgt Silver March 31st was the last effective day, and terminal leave is through May 31st.
 - Effective Strength – 41 personnel and 40 personnel as of April 1st.

Activities:

- Chief & Deputy Chief:
 - 3/6 Staff Meeting
 - 3/6 ESU Meeting
 - 3/7 Safe Streets Meeting
 - 3/8 PD Contract Negotiations
 - 3/11 Testify at Capitol on Education Bill
 - 3/12 FCCOP
 - 3/12 WestCOG Range Meeting
 - 3/14 Gordon Graham Presentation Aqua Turf
 - 3/15 Sergeant Silver Retirement Ceremony
 - 3/16 Penguin Plunge
 - 3/18-3/20 FBINAA Command College
 - 3/20 Dispatch Contract Negotiations
 - 3/21 Firing Range Tour Newburgh
 - 3/21 School Security Meeting
 - 3/22 Hilderbrand Meeting
 - 3/25 NPD Firearm Instructors Meeting
 - 3/25 Sandy Hook Fire Department Meeting
 - 3/27 Sandy Hook Presentation - Burlington County, NJ
 - 3/28 Awards Ceremony
 - 4/2 Stamford Range Tour

Department of
Police Services
191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470



David M. Kullgren
Chief of Police
Tel. (203) 426-5841
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

DETECTIVE BUREAU ACTIVITY February 28, 2024 through March 27, 2024

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Detective Bureau:

- 1 Commercial Burglary
- 1 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) CyberTip
- 1 Family Violence Sexual Assault

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Youth Division:

- 1 Suspicious Activity
- 1 Trespassing

Total New Investigations: 5

Cases of Note:

Commercial Burglary:

The Detective Bureau is investigating a commercial burglary that occurred during the overnight hours. Several leads have been developed using the newly installed License Plate Reader. The investigation is ongoing.

NCMEC CyberTip

The Detective Bureau investigated a NCMEC CyberTip. That investigation was assumed by Homeland Security.

Family Violence Sexual Assault:

The Detective Bureau investigated a Family Violence oriented Sexual Assault. This case was unable to be corroborated and was closed.

Observed Trends:

- There have still been numerous Fraud / Bad Check calls for service received by the Newtown Police Department. These Calls for Service generally encompass common scams via phone call, text or email, and fraudulently issued or modified bank checks. A social media post was created in an attempt to educate Newtown residence regarding a common scam.

- There has been an unprecedented increase in written checks being stolen from residential / commercial “blue” USPS mailboxes. These checks are then fraudulently negotiated, typically out of state. The Newtown Police Department has created several public notices advising the residents of Newtown to stop mailing paper checks, or delivers these mailings directly to the post office counter.
- The Youth Division has been active in the community, making a visible presence to community businesses.

Prepared by Detective Lieutenant Liam Seabrook

Incident Statistics Report

03/01/2024 00:00 Thru 03/27/2024 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P 911 CHECK	7
P ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE	2
P ALARM - CANCELLED	11
P ALARM FALSE	43
P ANIMAL CALL	23
P ASSIST AGENCY / MUTUAL AID	16
P BUILDING CHECK	685
P BURGLARY	2
P CIVIL MATTER	20
P COMMUNITY POLICING / EVENT	8
P CRISIS INTERVENTION	3
P DEATH NOTIFICATION	1
P DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	32
P DISPUTE	5
P DOMESTIC	3
P DRONE CALL OUT	6
P DUI	2
P DUMPING / LITTERING	3
P ERRATIC OPERATION	17
P FIRE ASSIST	3
P FIREARMS / AMMUNITION SURRENDER	2
P FIREWORKS COMPLAINT	1
P FOUND / LOST PROPERTY	12
P FRAUD / BAD CHECK	10
P HARASSMENT	1
P HEALTH / WELFARE CHECK	18
P K9 CALL OUT / TRAINING	5
P LARCENY	11
P MEDICAL ASSIST	9
P MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE	22
P MISSING PERSON	3
P MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENT	12
P MVA	24
P MVA - DEER	1
P MVA - EVADING	2
P MVA - INJURY	7
P NOISE COMPLAINT	7
P PARKING ENFORCEMENT / COMPLAINT	6
P PUBLIC HAZARD	19

Newtown Police Department

Incident Statistics Report

03/01/2024 00:00 Thru 03/27/2024 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P RECREATIONAL SHOOTING	5
P RPO INVESTIGATION	1
P SEX OFFENSES	1
P STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE	1
P SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	66
P THREATENING	1
P TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	89
P TRAFFIC STOP	160
P TRAFFIC STUDY / COMPLAINT	5
P TRESPASSING	2
P UNATTENDED DEATH	3
P VANDALISM	3
P WARRANT SERVICE	2
TEST CALL	3
Total:	1406

Department of
Police Services
191 South Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470



Sgt. John McDermott
Tel. (203) 426-5841
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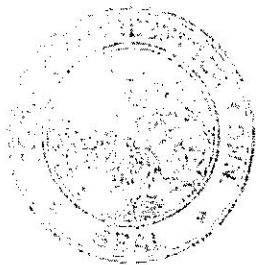
Newtown Police Department Training March 2024

During this month the following training was completed and/or instructed:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School Type</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Det. Monckton, Ofc. Mulhall	ESU	Sniper Monthly Training	03/26/2024	8
Lt. Seabrook, Det. Monckton, Ofc. Mulhall, Ofc Hayes	ESU	ESU Monthly Training	03/28/2024	8
K9 Ofc. Figol	K9	K9 Monthly Training	03/05/2024 03/19/2024	8
Lt. Smit Sgt. McDermott Sgt. Chapman Sgt. Silver Sgt. Ruszczyk Det. Monckton Ofc. Mulhall Ofc. McCarthy Ofc. Hayes Ofc. Tardim	POSTC In Service Recertification	March Recertification	03/04/2024 – 03/08/2024	8
Sgt. Ruszczyk Ofc. Tardim	EMR Recertification	EMR Recertification	03/08/2024	8
Ofc. Digiovanni Ofc. Rojas Ofc. Wlasuk	Crisis Intervention	Cable CIT	03/11/2024 – 03/15/2024	8
Chief Kullgren Lt. Smith Lt. Seabrook Sgt. Wisentaner Sgt. McDermott Ofc. Greco Ofc. Guernsey SRO. McDermott Ofc. Piazza	Leadership	Gordon Graham Seminar	03/14/2024	8
Chief Kullgren D.C. Bishop Lt. Smith Lt. Seabrook	Leadership	F.B.I. Command College	03/18/2024 – 03/20/2024	8

SRO. McDermott	Methods of Instruction	Instructor Development	03/25/2024 – 03/29/2024	
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Sergeant John McDermott
Professional Standards
Newtown Department of Police Services



TOWN OF GREENWICH

Department of Police, 11 Bruce Place, Greenwich, CT 06830
Telephone: (203) 622-8000 Fax: (203) 618-8866



James J. Heavey
Chief of Police
FBINA 264

Kraig W. Gray
Deputy Chief

Mark E. Zuccerella
Deputy Chief

March 18, 2024

Police Chief David Kullgren
Newtown Police Department
191 South Main Street
Newtown CT 06470

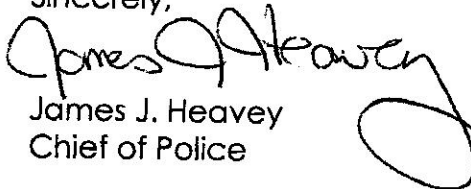
Dear Chief Kullgren:

Please accept my sincere gratitude for the assistance of your motorcycle officers provided yesterday, March 17th at Greenwich's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Thankfully, the weather was in our favor which brought out quite a large crowd. There's always feedback from participants how much they enjoy the police officers with their "loud" motorcycles as part of the procession.

Please extend my gratitude to your officers that attended. They certainly contributed to the festivities and helped to make it a great day for all.

Sincerely,


James J. Heavey
Chief of Police

/alc

cc: Sgt. James Smith

March 16.2024

Chief David Kullgren
Newtown Police Department
191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470

Good evening, Dave:

Maxine and I were very pleased and honored to be present yesterday afternoon at the retirement gathering for Sgt. Jeff Silver after 25 years of dedicated service in the Agency to Newtown. The passing of a quarter - of -a -century seems to be over in the blink of an eye.

I write to you to convey my congratulations on what a well-orchestrated affair the entire event was. You, in particular, did a superb job of MCing it all. I am certain that Jeff will remember the affair forever.

Maxine and I were very pleased to be there and see all our friends and some new ones.

Keep up the good work!



Paul Mangiafico
44 Copper Square Drive
Bethel, CT 06801