



STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
725 BEDFORD STREET
STAMFORD, CT 06901-1194
OFFICE: (203) 977-4427 FAX: (203) 977-5583

A regular meeting of the Stamford Police Commission was held on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 5:00pm in the Commission Room at Police Headquarters.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Abbazia, Figueroa, Flinn, and Bass. Commissioner Mercede was absent. Chief Timothy Shaw, Assistant Chief Thomas Wuennemann, Lt. Sean Cooney and Sgts. Gioielli and Gasparino, Director Jankowski. Attendees were Jere Eaton, Retired Police Officer B. Cronin and Stamford Officers Donahue and Pasquino and Captain Conklin

Commissioner Figueroa called the meeting to order at 5:03pm as Commissioner Abbazia arrived a few minutes late.

Review of Minutes

Commissioner Flinn made a motion to accept the minutes and Commissioner Bass second. All were in favor.

Commissioner Awards

Commission presented Commission Awards to Retired Officer B. Cronin and Officers B. Donahue and L. Pasquino for outstanding work in two different incidents.

Comments from the Public

No comments from the public

Good Conduct by Officers:

Not at this time

Personnel Issues

Chief Shaw informed Commission six new recruits in the Milford Academy beginning April 15, 2021. The new recruits will be at SPD headquarters for a few days, thus before they begin the Academy they will meet different community groups. There are two recruits graduating from the Waterbury Academy and we have four in the Meridan Academy.

Two retirements recently, one April 5, 2021, one April 29, 2021 and one May 8, 2021.

Administration and Operating

Assistant Chief Wuennemann opened with a homicide and asked Capt. Conklin to elaborate. Homicide was of Denise McLaughlin of Manor Street. The Patrol unit who did an outstanding job did all pre-work. Son was a suspect and has substance issues. He fled to Queens, NY where he was arrested (different charge). Upon speaking with a doctor, he told him he had just killed his mother. SPD is at Queens now and going to extradite him to Stamford.

Chief Shaw spoke about the NOC Unit and the changes that occurred last year and how they are doing more investigative work now. Capt. Conklin mentioned the arrest of a supplier who supplied cocaine to three people last August who died in a car after using the cocaine, was laced with fentanyl. Commissioner Abbazia asked if the PD does anything for awareness to 20 year olds and older about drugs being laced with fentanyl. Chief Shaw informed the Commission that they speak with students from 5th grade up regarding internet safety and high school students on the use of drugs.

Chief Shaw pointed out the patrol car in the parking lot that the Stamford Police Foundation funded with a "wrap-a-car" for Autism Awareness. The car will be placed in different locations throughout the month of April and will be driven by the evening shift.

Assistant Chief Wuennemann spoke about the changes the PD is making in Metal Health incidents and issues that occur within the city. Chief Shaw spoke about the changes in mental health 2020 vs 2021. New protocol with dispatchers, EMS, Police. We have hired a Social Worker who will be on staff at the PD 40 hours per week working with a smaller team on how to handle mental health, how to get family and person the resources they need and what police officers need to handle this type of situation. Commission Bass commented that the court decides what the sentencing will be in crimes committed by mental health violators. Chief Shaw said that yes they usually do.

Property Crimes Report – Calls for theft of motor vehicle: 13 (two rentals not returned) one motorcycle and all call were unlocked with keys in them. 45 calls theft from motor vehicle all were unlocked. Commissioner Figueroa asked about the many car break-ins in the city. Chief Shaw said that every city in the State is having issues with car break-ins. No matter how many social media sites we use reminding everyone to lock their car and do not leave anything in it, they do not comply. Chief Shaw told the Commission about the five juveniles arrested for stealing a car and then getting into a foot pursuit with officers.

BCI Report – After lengthy investigation into the September 20, 2020, homicide of Shenetta Dunmore warrant was issued for suspect and was brought to court and charged on April 1.

Homicide on May 29, 2020 was revealed to be a homicide not suicide and suspect was arrested with a warrant and a \$1 million bond was set by the court.

Shots fired at a house on 146 Henry Street March 21, 2021. Shots fired at hour at 12 Burr Street on March 17, 2021.

Traffic Enforcement Report – issued 105 speeding violations, issues two violations for passing stopped school bus, 3 license seizures of 16/17 yo drives – 2 for speed and 1 for passenger violation.

Old/New Business

Commissioner Abbazia informed the attendees that the review for the August 8 incident at Target is still ongoing and the Commission is working on getting it done.

Swearing in of new recruits will be in the Community Room on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 11:15am.

Commissioner Abbazia asked about the 20-21 Budget meeting. Chief Shaw said everything went well and that the biggest dollar amount was due to everything we must do for the Accountability Bill. Commissioner Abbazia asked if we get any federal stimulus money – City gets the money.

Chief Shaw stated we hired one later officer from Bridgeport who will be starting in May 2021. We are working on a test for Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm

Next Commission meeting is May 3, 2021 beginning at 5:00pm in the Community Room with Zoom options.

Submitted,

Timothy Abbazia

Timothy Abbazia
Chairman