

Board of Police Commission
Regular Meeting
Chairman Paul D. Abercrombie Police Commission
And Training Room 2nd Floor
March 24, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Chairman Joseph F. D'Errico called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Present: Chairman Joseph F. D'Errico, Commissioners; David Monz, Larry Lazaroff, Marc Calafiore, and Walt Spader, Chief Thomas McLoughlin, Deputy Chief Jon Mulhern.

Absent: All were present

Others Present: First Selectman Michael Freda, Hunter Pageau, Sharon Agli-Pageau, several North Haven Police Officers, Lori Laffin, and residents from the community.

The Chairman addressed those in attendance to explain that tonight the North Haven Police Department would be presenting nine year old Hunter Pageau with an Honorary Youth Badge. Hunter, who has SMARD (Spinal Muscular Atrophy with Respiratory Distress), has been an inspiration to the members of the police department, and to the town as a whole, for his constant positive attitude, his message of hope, and his willingness to help others.

Chairman D'Errico asked for Hunter to come forward at which time the Chairman read the oath of the Honorary Youth Officer. The time was 6:39 p.m.

Police Union President Val Queiroga spoke on behalf of Hunter stating Hunter has what it takes to be a member of the North Haven Police Department. Queiroga said Hunter brings out the positive in everyone and is a huge role model to the North Haven Police Officers who are honored to have him be a part of their brotherhood.

First Selectman Mike Freda congratulated Hunter and explained that Hunter is a powerful symbol of hope, perseverance, and love. Freda thanked Hunter for the lasting impact he has had on the North Haven Police Department and the whole community.

Hunter expressed his thanks to everyone and said it was a great honor.

The meeting was then temporarily adjourned for refreshments. The time was 6:47p.m.

After a brief recess the meeting reconvened at 7:03p.m.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the February 24, 2015 meeting Regular and Executive Sessions and the approval of the minutes from the March 2, 2015 Special Meeting.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Monz made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2015 meeting; Regular and Executive sessions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lazaroff. All were in favor.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2015 Special Meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Spader. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Calafiore. All were in favor.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to approve the monthly reports for February 2015. A motion to approve the reports was made by Commissioner Lazaroff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Spader. All were in favor.

Correspondence:

Three letters were received thanking the Police Department for their assistance with funeral procession escorts. These letters were from the Appi family, the Santagata family, and the Peach family.

A letter was received thanking Officers Sinanis and O'Keeffe for their professionalism during a motor vehicle stop.

Chairman's Report

Chairman had nothing to report for old business.

New business: Chairman D'Errico asked Captain Genovese to remind officers to report broken or damaged street signs. Chief McLoughlin interjected and advised the Chairman that Captain Genovese is in charge of Uniformed Services, not traffic but he advised the Chairman to be assured that Captain Genovese will pass the information on to the Traffic Captain.

Chief explained that currently the only signs that can be replaced would be stop signs, as the traffic maintenance budget has been exceeded and until he receives the insurance reimbursement from two traffic accidents. Chief said only signs that would impose a liability to the town and stop signs can be replaced at this time.

Chairman D'Errico said that he has spoken with the Chief and Deputy and although they are not 100 percent in agreement, he wants to have the traffic signs and lights taken out of the Police Budget and put in to the Highway budget.

Chief's report

There were no Berniere scholarship requests this month.

Captain Genovese presented a design for a memorial plaque for Officer Timothy Laffin who is the only North Haven Police Officer killed in the line of duty. Captain Genovese asked the Board for approval to install a bronze plaque commemorating Officer Laffin in the main lobby of Police Headquarters which would be a permanent memorial to Laffin.

Officer Laffin succumbed to injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident on May 29, 1980. Currently there is only a small shadow box with his retired badge in the lobby. The Laffin family has been involved with the design, and Lori Laffin; Tim's widow, agreed to the final design. Genovese also presented a professionally enhanced 8x10 color photo of Tim Laffin to his Lori Laffin.

Commissioner Lazaroff made the motion to approve the plaque request as depicted and its placement in the lobby of Police Headquarters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Spader. All were in favor.

Chief reminded residents that April is Child abuse awareness month.

There will be a MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) 5k walk Saturday March 28th at the Cheshire Park and Recreation building which is being sponsored by area tri towns, including North Haven.

The Prescription Take Back is scheduled for April 18th at Fire Headquarters from 8:00am-12:00. The DEA is no longer sponsoring this program, but the Police Department along with North Haven Community Services will be continuing it. This is a beneficial program to easily and properly allow residents to safely dispose any unused or unwanted medication.

Budget:

Chief explained the Department is currently remaining within budget, and stated that they are still waiting for the insurance reimbursement for two traffic lights damaged in traffic accidents.

Traffic:

Chief reported that many street signs have been damaged throughout the winter months, and explained that currently there is no money in the budget now to replace all destroyed/damaged signs until after July 1. Chief said the stop signs are being replaced immediately.

Chief stated there was a pedestrian fatality March 10, involving a motor vehicle on Clintonville Road. Chief explained that North Haven officers along with the South Central Traffic Team are investigating and it will be several more weeks before the report is completed. Fatal accidents are very time consuming, and labor intensive.

The Police Department has been awarded a grant for "Distracted Driving" and increased enforcement will be visible in April. The second phase of this grant will continue in August.

Chief said in April he will bring forward a request to the board to post "no parking" signs on North Frontage Road. He explained there have been several tractor trailer units parking on North Frontage road during the evening hours, thus causing an inconvenience for thru traffic.

Training:

Officer Dahlstrom has completed his field training and is now patrolling on his own.

Recruit Pacileo is still at the Police Academy and progressing well.

There was a department wide training recently which will allow Officer's to use Narcan nasal spray for victims of overdose. This is another public safety measure for Officers on scene in the event that Fire Emergency Services are unavailable or secondary to respond to the incident. There is currently only a handful of Police Agencies in the state using Narcan. Chief said that he felt this is critical for our officers to have the ability to bring someone out of an opiate overdose. All cruisers will be equipped with Narcan within two to three weeks.

Another Department wide training was held this month to recertify officers with tourniquet and quick clot training. Not all police agencies are equipped with these items.

Also included in this training was recertification of Blood borne pathogens.

Recently all Officers and Command Staff participated in training titled "Unbiased Policing" which was held at the Hamden Police Department given by representatives from the Department of Justice. Chief explained this is another part of human relations training, as the need for continual training pertaining to contemporary issues is critical.

Patrol/Investigative Services

Investigative services continue to be very busy as reported by Lt. Kevin Glenn.

Chief McLoughlin gave special Thanks to School Resource Officer Michael Dicocco and Detective Matt Falcon for taking part in the "Read Across America" program at Clintonville School recently. Chief said the officers received several thank you letters and drawings from the children who participated. Chief said he looks forward to next year's program. Chief said this is a great connection for Officers to have with the children.

Building Update:

Chief explained that the issues with the window project seem to be moving forward as some funds have come in to play from the finance department. Chief described the replacement windows to be one whole paned window, from top to bottom which may change the look of the building. Chief said he is hopeful that the project will be completed before winter.

Chief McLoughlin and Deputy Mulhern recently met with an architect regarding the remediation project in the range as they are looking for ideas on how to repurpose the space downstairs that will remain after the project is complete, stating they don't want to waste 1000 square feet of space. Chief said they have some reasonable ideas for the space, and should funds be available they will move quickly.

Kristen Cohen of 118 Buell Street came forward to present letters to the Board from her neighborhood to say thank you for the placement of stanchions and for working with them regarding traffic issues in their area.

Ms. Cohen said she wanted to be present tonight to touch base with the Board. She also asked the board if they can revisit the possibility of getting traffic engineer to conduct a traffic study. Chairman D'Errico said there is no money in the budget right now. Ms. Cohen asked if there is any possibility for the neighborhood to raise funds towards bringing in a traffic engineer for the study and the Chairman said that would not be necessary.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to adjourn and move into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Commissioner Lazaroff made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Spader. All were in favor.

The time was 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Lazaroff, Secretary

Board of Police Commission
Executive Session
March 24, 2015

Chairman D'Errico called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM.

Present: Chairman D'Errico, Commissioners Lazaroff, Calafiore, and Spader, Chief McLoughlin and Deputy Chief Mulhern.

Absent: Commissioner Monz

Personnel matters were discussed.

Chairman D'Errico asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Lazaroff made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Spader. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

The time was 8:36P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas McLoughlin, Chief of Police