

MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2020
6:30 P.M.
VIA WEBEX

NOTE:

This recorded Public Safety Commission (PSC) Meeting began with Councilwoman Linda Salafia already speaking (with 2:32:23 remaining).

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilman Darnell Ford, Chairman
Councilwoman Meghan Carta
Councilman Anthony Mangiafico
Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilwoman Linda Salafia

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Timbro – Acting Chief of Police
Captain John Lozefski – Administrative Commander

Chairman Darnell Ford spoke about changes regarding the direction the PSC is going, where it would be more accessible to the public for transparency, etc. Councilwoman Salafia added as long as the PSC opens the door to anyone who wants to bring anything forward.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Anthony Mangiafico made a Motion to have Senator Matt Lessor speak after Item 2. Approval of Minutes, under Item 3. Public Hearing – Matters on the Agenda Only, regarding the Accountability Bill; Seconded by Councilman Pessina. Chief Timbro wanted the PSC to be aware that the PSC Agenda is required to be posted 24 hours prior to the meeting; that in the past, when attempts were made to have the Agenda amended, there have been problems; that he just wanted to make that known for the record. After another brief discussion, Chairman Ford stated that from this point on they would ask for a little bit of latitude during this meeting to amend the Agenda and allow Senator Lessor to speak. There being no further discussion or objection, Motion was approved.

2. Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2020

Councilman Pessina made a Motion to approve the PSC Minutes for June 15, 2020; Seconded by Councilman Mangiafico. There being no discussion or objection, Motion approved unanimously.

3. Public Hearing – Matters on the Agenda Only

Senator Lessor thanked everyone for accommodating him to speak at the meeting regarding the Police Accountability Legislation that is currently pending. He also spoke on other subject matters, such as... Immunity; Use of Force; Body Cameras; Civilian Review Board, etc.

A brief Q&A followed, including the funding of Body Cameras. Chief Timbro stated that while the MPD is all for it, the expense of the cameras is nothing compared to the State-mandated storage that it would take to keep them for the required four (4) years, as well as the added personnel needed to review, edit/redact them to allow them to be available via Freedom of Information (FOI); that it's astronomical.

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3. Public Hearing – Matters on the Agenda Only (cont'd)

Note:

Due to the enormity of all participants, please read the last page of these Minutes for instructions on how to access the recording of the entire PSC Meeting.

Nick Puorro – *(MPD Officer for 14 years; currently a Patrol Sergeant, Police Union Secretary, and lifelong Middletown resident.)*

Diana Martinez – 41 Hotchkiss Street *(one of the authors of the DTC Sub-Committee)*

Jennifer Billingsley – 10 Longworth Avenue

Valerie Light – 93 Highland Avenue *(one of the authors of the DTC Sub-Committee)*

Amy Albert – 9 Blue Bird Road *(one of the authors of the DTC Sub-Committee)*

4. Correspondence

Chief Timbro said the ones that he already sent via E-mail are the only ones that he has.

5. Monthly Reports

Chief Timbro reported there was no appropriation for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year, as they came under budget.

6. Old Business

a. Animal Shelter

Captain John Lozefski stated that all of the permits have been signed; that they have dug the foundation, and the building delivery would be July 23rd. They're hoping for a late September moving date.

7. New Business

a. Approval for Request of Capitol Money RE: Vehicle Procurement

Captain Lozefski explained that per Diana Doyle *(Assistant Director of Finance)*, he's going to the PSC first, to ask for \$350,000.00 to procure seven (7) Police Vehicles; that he also forwarded a list of *(vehicle)* inventory to the PSC where they could see a significant amount of vehicles that are older and with a lot of mileage. After a brief Q&A, Councilman Pessina made a Motion that this request be forwarded to Finance & Government; Seconded by Councilman Mangiafico. There being no further discussion or objection, Motion approved unanimously.

b. MDTC Police Reform Committee Presentation

David Roane, 352 Newfield Street

Mr. Roane thanked everyone for allowing him to be there for the presentation.

After explaining the past and current events which have occurred throughout the nation, Mr. Roane stated that he was there to ask the PSC to endorse the proposal unanimously and have it on the August 2020 City Council Agenda.

Chief Timbro said that in the spirit of transparency, he would like to go over some of the policies. Councilwoman Salafia made a Motion to hear Chief Timbro; Seconded by Councilwoman Meghan Carta. There being no discussion or objection, Motion approved.

Chief Timbro stated if anyone has any questions, all they have to do is ask. He added if anyone wants copies of policies, they could send him an E-mail (MTimbro@MiddletownCTPolice.com) requesting same, and he'll be more than happy to send it to them. He then proceeded to go over and explain the policies. After he was done, a Q&A/discussion followed. During the course of the discussion, Chief Timbro advised that the Complaint Procedure Policy is already online and available to the public.

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7. New Business (cont'd)

b. MDTC Police Reform Committee Presentation

Councilman Pessina made a Motion that Mr. Roane's proposal be sent to the Mayor's Office, supported by the PSC, to be utilized as part of the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Racism; Seconded by Councilwoman Carta. There being no further discussion or objection, Motion approved (*via individually named votes*) unanimously.

8. Public Hearing Reopened – Other Matters

Councilman Pessina made a Motion to adjourn; Seconded by Councilman Mangiafico. There being no discussion or objection, Motion approved.

9. Meeting Adjourned...

Chairman Ford adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

Next Public Safety Commission Meeting: Monday, August 17, 2020, 6:30 P.M.

TO VIEW THIS MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE:

www.cityofmiddletown.com

- Community Videos
- Granicus
- Available Archives
 - 2020
- Public Safety Commission (PSC)
- Click **Video** on the PSC Police Date you want

Respectfully Submitted,



Rosa B. Perichi
Recording Secretary