

Easton Police Commission Regular Meeting  
Easton Library Conference Room  
February 9, 2009

The Easton Police Commission Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:40 P.M. by Chairman Robert Nicola.

Present were:

Robert Nicola, Chairman  
Raymond Martin, Vice Chairman  
Marvin Gelfand, Secretary  
Richard Colangelo, Commissioner  
Ronald Kowalski, Commissioner

Also present:

Chief John F. Solomon  
Captain James Candee  
First Selectman Thomas Herrmann

**I. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

A. Correspondence

1. None was submitted.

**II. REPORTS**

A. Police and Animal Control Account

- All in good order - no further comments or questions.

B. Alarm Report

- Two activities - no other abnormal occurrences.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

A. 2009-2010 Budget

A memo was submitted to Town of Easton departments from the Chairman of the Board of Finance stating the following:

In addition to the budget you have been asked to prepare, which does not exceed an increase of 3% including benefits, you must also submit the following:

1. A budget with no increases in total costs.
2. A budget with a decrease of 10% in total costs.
3. An organization chart for your department.

Chief Solomon recommended meeting with the Commission when the budget was ready. He indicated a budget reflecting an increase of under 3% would be very difficult. He would suggest that the Town consider discussing concessions with the Unions, particularly when considering a minus 10% budget.

First Selectman Hermann suggested that perhaps a moratorium regarding raises may create animosity and fear among employees, and that layoffs may have to be considered in preparing the minus 10% budget.

The Selectman stated that we might desire to trade notes with other towns and to consider regionalization in areas of dispatching and other areas of mutual aid. There was a discussion about installing GPS units in police vehicles.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. A motion was made by Commissioner Colangelo and seconded by Vice Chairman Martin to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. It was decided to retain the current Municipal Towers List.

### C. College Tuition Reimbursement

The Commission reviewed a request for tuition reimbursement from Officer Thomas Ceccarelli for courses completed through Phoenix University (on-line). Chairman Nicola suggested that local schools might be less expensive. Chairman Nicola suggested that a memo be sent out to all police personnel that applicants submit requests to attend specific courses and that the requests be reviewed and approved in advance by the Commission in the future.

However, the Commission agreed unanimously to approve the request for reimbursement for Officer Ceccarelli.

## **IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vice Chairman Martin made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Colangelo to go into Executive Session at 6:20 P.M. No motions were made in Executive Session and the Commission returned to Regular Session at 6:45 P.M.

Commissioner Colangelo offered an opportunity for an officer to participate in the “X-Way Forensic Program” (Computer Crime Training) sponsored by the Stamford Judicial District through a grant. The course trains state and local officers in how to identify, apprehend and prosecute sexual predators of children. The cost of the class would be \$1500.00.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Martin, seconded by Commissioner Colangelo and unanimously approved to send an officer to the class and fund it through Asset Forfeiture.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Martin and seconded by Commissioner Colangelo to adjourn at 7:05 P.M. The motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Commissioner Marvin Gelfand  
Secretary

MG/ag