

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006  
5:30 P.M. – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Present: Commission Members: Commissioners Joseph Ametrano,  
Thomas Cole, Peter Barrett and Rose  
Dostert

Departmental Members: Police Chief Thomas Terribile,  
Deputy Police Chief Jeffrey  
Hutchinson, Officers Lawrence and  
Denison and Acting Clerk Traci  
Brinkman

Others: First Selectman Carl Balestracci,  
Officer Lawrence’s family, retired  
Lt. Arthur Dolan and about  
three others in the audience

Chairman Thomas Cole called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**1. Approval of prior meeting minutes**

Mr. Cole noted a correction on Page 5, item 4.3.1 – correct spelling of Dane Lawrence’s first name. Change “Dan” to “Dane.”

Mr. Barrett noted a clarification to Page 1, item 3 – the town was not “cited” for poor a poor site line, it was only “notified.”

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Dostert and seconded by  
Commissioner Barrett, the commission voted unanimously to approve  
the minutes of the February 15, 2006 Regular Meeting as amended.*

*Vote: In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and  
Dostert  
Opposed: None  
Abstaining: None*

**2. Public Petition/Commentary**

None

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Dostert and seconded by  
Commissioner Ametrano, the commission voted unanimously to move*

*item 4.2.1 Sgt. Promotion up in the agenda.*  
*Vote: In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Abstaining: None*

## **4.2 Personnel**

### **4.2.1 Sgt. Promotion**

Commissioner Cole explained that last night the Police Commission had to evaluate three finalists for the rank of sergeant. He added that they had all been through the South Central screening and interview process. Since Guilford has a very good police department all three were well qualified candidates and it was a difficult decision. Commissioner Cole said they voted to promote Dane Lawrence to the rank of sergeant.

Chief Terribile said that Officer Lawrence is a legend in this town and deserves to be promoted.

The newly appointed Sergeant Lawrence thanked everyone for all their support.

Chief Terribile also alerted the board that there were no problems with the recent evaluations done for the patrolmen and the sergeants. He added that currently evaluations for the lieutenants and the deputy chief are being completed. Chief Terribile said some officers wish to change some of the categories on the evaluation forms to better fit what they are doing today. He has put together a committee to look at it. Since the forms were put together in the late 80's and have basically stayed the same since then, he said it is time for an update.

## **3. Traffic**

Chief Terribile said there are no traffic issues this month.

## **4. Committee Reports**

### **4.1 Facilities/Equipment**

#### **4.1.1. Vests**

Deputy Chief Hutchinson explained that at the last meeting they were told there would be a delay in the replacement vests because they were waiting for some paperwork. He added that the next day 38 vests showed up at the door, so now they have the new ones in

place.

*Motion:* Upon a motion made by Commissioner Dostert and seconded by Commissioner Ametrano, the commission voted unanimously to add to the agenda item 4.1.2, to receive information regarding a condominium development near the police department shooting range.

*Vote:* In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert  
Opposed: None  
Abstaining: None

#### 4.1.2 Shooting Range/Condominium Development

Chief Terrible said the town engineer requested that the commission be aware of plans for this proposed 150 unit condominium complex behind the transfer station and near the shooting range. He added that the developer has requested emergency access from the site in the form of a dirt road through the back of the existing landfill area and on the side of the shooting range berms.

Chief Terrible said the selectmen are looking to see if this road would interfere with the operation of the range, but he did not think it would. He added that he does not see a problem with emergency access only and he would like the condos moved as far from the range as possible, so they do not get complaints from neighbors about the sounds.

*Motion:* Upon a motion made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Ametrano, the commission voted unanimously to approve a motion stating that the Police Commission has no objection to the construction of a dirt road for emergency services only and suggest that the buildings be set as far away from the shooting range as possible, pending the commission's review of the final plan.

*Vote:* In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert  
Opposed: None  
Abstaining: None

### 4.3 Communications

#### 4.3.1 Letter from Robert DeNuzzo – Deputy Chief Hutchinson

This is a letter thanking the Deputy Chief for allowing his son Michael to enter into an internship at the police department.

#### 4.3.2 Letter from Peter Rivera – Officer Moreno

This is a letter thanking Officer Moreno for helping him with a problem he had with a contractor that he felt overcharged him. Through her diligence the situation was worked out and the contractor will pay \$500 in restitution.

#### 4.3.3 Letter from Kathy Brooks – Officer Ruggiero

This letter is commending officer Ruggiero for assistance when Ms. Brooks became the victim of identity theft.

*Motion:* Upon a motion made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Ametrano, the commission voted unanimously to add item 4.3.4 to the agenda – a letter commending Chief Terribile.

*Vote:* In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert  
Opposed: None  
Abstaining: None

#### 4.3.4 Letter from Professor Parker – Chief Terribile

This letter from the professor of Criminal Justice at UNH is thanking the chief for making a presentation in his police and society class. He appreciated the participation.

### 4.4 Budget/Finance

#### 4.4.1 Budget 2005/2006

Chief Terribile said they are 33.3 weeks through the year and they should have expended 64.04 percent of the budget. He added that they will still be about \$30,000 to \$50,000 in the negative in replacement. Chief Terribile said the salary account is in good shape due to the resignations of two personnel, so he is hoping to absorb the replacement expense there. He added that they will be in the negative in gas and utilities as well since prices have been going up and down. Chief Terribile said everything else should come in within budget. He is projecting a \$30,000 to \$40,000 surplus at the end of the year.

#### 4.4.2 Budget 2006/2007

Chief Terribile said the Board of Finance has met and so far the

police budget has not been cut so the figures are staying the same. He added that bonding for the radio infrastructure improvements for the fire and police departments was approved. Those improvements along with a fire truck will be one bonding question, there will be another question for the Board of Education and a third question regarding a sweeper.

Chief Terribile explained the importance of having a separate tactical channel, because discussions can bleed over on the main frequency. In addition they can also record on the tactical channel. He added that their console and equipment is 10 years old and needs to be replaced. The switch from wideband to narrowband, which is also included in the bond package, is an FCC requirement.

**5. Monthly Reports**

Chief Terribile said overall productivity is good.

**6. Old Business**

None

**7. New Business**

7.1 Wrecker Application

Chief Terribile explained that Guilford Tire has requested they be added to the police department wrecker list to tow vehicles. He checked with the Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) first and they had some zoning issues. There were too many cars on the lot, so the ZEO issued a citation and they cleaned it up. Chief Terribile said he also checked with the Motor Vehicle department to make sure there were no complaints. There was one complaint from someone who said they were being charged for having their car moved in the lot, but they have seen that with other wrecking companies.

Chief Terribile said they do have the proper insurance and equipment so he sees no problem adding them to the list along with the current companies: Guilford Texaco, D&S Auto and Guilford Automotive. He added that they will now have four companies on the list and will work on a four week rotating basis.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Dostert and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, the commission voted unanimously to approve the wrecker application from Guilford Tire.*

*Vote: In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Abstaining: None*

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Dostert the commission voted unanimously to add to the agenda item 7.2 a letter addressed to Commissioner Cole*

*Vote: In Favor: Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Abstaining: None*

7.2 Letter to Commissioner Cole from Lt. Robert Robinson

Chairman Cole stated that the Police and Fire Departments in conjunction with North Haven held a SWAT training exercise at Baldwin School. On that date, due to a unforeseen illness, Chief Terribile stepped in at the last minute to fill the role of the on scene commander. In the letter Lt. Robinson commended the chief for taking an active role in the training process. He added that Chief Terribile has always led from the front and is always actively involved in training the troops, which is rare in a department.

Chief Terribile said the department is lucky that the Board of Education allows them the use of its buildings to train. He added that they get to try out their tools and bring other departments together to do joint training so they can work as a cohesive team. In addition they are able to bring all their assets together as well.

Chairman Cole said it was a great thing for Chief Terribile to do and it is also great that he was recognized by the troops.

**8. Police Personnel Comments.**

**Executive session**

Any other business that may properly come before the Board in Executive Session.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Commissioner Ametrano and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, the commission voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 6:20 p.m. and invited Chief Terribile.*

*Vote:*            *In Favor:*        *Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed:*        *None*  
*Abstaining:*    *None*

*Motion:*        *Upon a motion made by Commissioner Dostert and seconded by Commissioner Ametrano, the commission voted unanimously to return from executive session at 6:35 p.m.*

*Vote:*            *In Favor:*        *Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed:*        *None*  
*Abstaining:*    *None*

Upon returning from executive session no motions were made and no action was taken. The commission adjourned the meeting.

*Motion:*        *Upon a motion made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Dostert, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m.*

*Vote:*            *In Favor:*        *Chairman Cole, Commissioners Ametrano, Barrett and Dostert*  
*Opposed:*        *None*  
*Abstaining:*    *None*

Respectfully submitted,

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Traci K. Brinkman  
Acting-Clerk  
Board of Police Commissioners