

## **BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE**

There was a regular meeting for the above-referenced subcommittee held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 10, 2014 in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Councilors Joseph Washington, Joseph Merritt and Joel Neuwirth

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck Jr., Town Manager, Captain Hajdasz, Chief William Riley, Pat Braun and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

Absent were: Councilor Wayne Hypolite and Chief Robert Farmer

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014.

### **Public Comment**

1. Mr. Julius Clark, former University Police Officer at American University in Washington, D.C. presented information regarding body cameras for police officers. He also gave his opinion of why cameras are beneficial to the town and the officers. Captain Hajdasz stated that the police equipment industry is trying to keep up with demand for body cameras. The cost on the community and potential occurrences will be less. Currently, the Bloomfield Police Department has audio recordings in place and all cruisers are equipped.

### **POLICE**

The police department remains on track with the budget. There have been no unplanned expenses. Overtime is trending as projected and should balance back to original budget after required trainings are completed.

### Personnel Updates

Captain Hajdasz reported that staffing levels are at the budgeted 49 sworn officers with a total of 61 employees in total.

In addition, the Chief also reminded the committee of the anticipated retirement of two officers (Steve Tonkin and Isaac Medina) effective January 1, 2015 and one sergeant (Jose Martinez) effective December 11, 2014.

Officer Sarah Nestlan was hired and began with the department on Monday, November 3, 2014. Officers Phil Serkosky and Officer Michael McKenna have completed their field training and are now probationary employees.

All positions are currently filled within the department. Police Administration are reviewing candidates for possible appointment in January 2015.

The department is preparing a community satisfaction survey to get feedback on the level of police service, satisfaction and/or concerns. The distribution of this survey is scheduled for November-December.

### Community Services

#### Crime

- Crime is trending on an increase of 4% in residential burglaries. The department is working in collaboration with the Windsor Police to apprehend suspects involved with these burglaries.
- The calls for service and officer initiated calls are up 11% from year-to-date, however police arrests are down 1%.
- Traffic enforcement will continue at primary accident locations.
- Speed and Distracted Driver Grant fund have assisted town efforts to increase enforcement in this area.

### Prescription Drug Take Back Program

The Police Department is an active participant in the State of Connecticut Prescription Drug Take Back Program. A prescription medication drop-box has been installed in the lobby of the Bloomfield Police Department. Accepted items for the drop-box are prescriptions, prescription patches, prescription medications, prescription ointments, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, samples, and medications for pets. Items that are NOT accepted are chemotherapy

medications, needles, sharps, thermometers, hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, aerosol cans, ointments, lotions, liquids, or medications from businesses and clinics.

### Community Services

The department participated in the following community service events for the month of October:

- October 1, 2014, the department installed and open the Drug Drop Box Inspection
- October 1, 2014, a Police Explorer's Meeting was held
- October 7, 2014, the Youth Adult Council meeting was held
- October 15, 2014, a Police Explorer's Meeting was held
- October 18, 2014, Auer Farm Fall Festival
- October 24, 2014, Social & Youth Services Boo Bash
- October 25, 2014, Domestic Violence Seminar for Woman's Group for Christ
- October 31, 2014, Emergency Services Safe Halloween Night

### CALEA - Accreditation

The timeline for our initial accreditation remains on schedule. Certified assessors were at the department recently to review efforts towards accreditation and inspection of the facility. The department is progressing and optimistic that efforts are on schedule. The mock assessment is scheduled for January 2015.

### Emergency Operations Division

The State Mandated All Hazard Plan for the public schools was completed.

The department is currently conducting safety and threat assessment of town buildings. Town Hall has been completed and 330 Park Avenue is the next schedule on the list.

The department is also working on an update of the Town's Emergency Operations Plan.

### Training

The department hosted a training classes on School Security with numerous Bloomfield School Officials, neighboring police and school administration agencies.

### School Threat Assessment Procedures

The assessment is to determine if a student is a danger to themselves and others, what level of threat the student poses, how to identify pre-incident indicators of violence, and how to intervene to stabilize the student as well as the situation.

### School Vulnerability Assessments

This assessment is to determine a school's vulnerability to violence, which types of violence are most likely to occur, and how to reduce or eliminate the threat of danger.

### **BVA**

The Fall EMT class is going well. The department will continue to work with the BVA Fund and Finance on the details of an ambulance donation.

It was noted that AMR has covered at a minimum and BVA has been covering most shifts.

### **FIRE**

Chief Riley gave a brief update on the Insurance Services Survey for the district. The evaluation of this survey is done every 5 years on truck maintenance, pump testing and training records. The district maintained their ISO rating of 4-4X (areas without credible water supply under MDC pressures).

The district also participated in the Social & Youth Services Boo Bash as a vendor on October 24, 2014.

### **EMS**

Mr. Pat Braun reported that an Ambulance Committee was created with personnel from the departments of Public Works and Police, BVA volunteers and the BVA Fund. The EMS Committee completed an extensive study for the purchase of a new ambulance. It was decided of the committee to purchase a pre-made ambulance and trade the currently vehicle after 10 years of life use. The BVA Fund will pay \$150,019 to purchase the new ambulance. The town should review the next ambulance purchase within two years. The delivery of the new vehicle should be within the next two weeks.

Mr. Braun also presented some information regarding the power loader (modification to stretchers) upgrade cost range from \$25,500. The BVA Fund requested the town to pay half of the cost (\$12,500). There will be a business fund drive to raise funds of approximately \$73,000.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting at 7:25 p.m.