

**BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE**

There was a regular meeting for the above-referenced subcommittee held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2016 in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Councilors Joseph Washington, Derrick Seldon and Leon Rivers

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

Absent were: Councilor Neuwirth and Merritt, Chief William Riley, Chief Robert Farmer, Chief Paul Hammick

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

This item was deferred until the next scheduled meeting for approval.

**POLICE**

The police department remains on track with the budget. There have been no unplanned expenses. Overtime figures are trending as projected.

*Personnel Updates*

The department has a total of 61 employees of which, there are 49 budgeted sworn officers. However, the department currently has 46 sworn police officers.

Recruitment

- Officer Steve Tonkin retired on March 18, 2016.
- Officer Madison Bolden will be retiring on April 29, 2016.

Officer Presley Stewart continues to do well in the academy, his anticipated graduation is June 16, 2016.

Officer Graham Brown started his training academy on April 1, 2016. His anticipated graduation is September 13, 2016.

Dispatcher Shimona Spears has successfully completed Phase I in her scheduled 13 week training.

Captain Hajdasz reported that the department will continue to conduct backgrounds on candidates for Police Officer as well as certified officers, and anticipate a conditional offer of an additional position of Police Cadet.

The department have two promotional vacancies, Sergeant and Detective. Both lists are active and promotions are expected to occur this month.

There was one citizen complaint for the month of March. This complaint is currently under investigation.

There were no use of force incidents this month.

### Crime

- Crime has increased in the past month by about 4%. Mostly, larcenies have been the contributing factors for this increase. In addition, the department has seen a rise in simple assaults, robberies and burglaries.

Traffic Enforcement will be a continued focus for the department. The department is currently working under Distracted Driving and DUI Grant funding. Focus areas are based on motor vehicle assessment data and citizen complaint, Cottage Grove Road and Blue Hills Avenue.

On March 31, 2016, there was a car accident that involved Officer Alicia Aldrich and Blue Hills volunteer Firefighter McLish. Officer Aldrich was transported to St. Francis Hospital and released with no injuries. However, the Firefighter McLish's injuries were severe causing him to be admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. Due to the severity of Firefighter McLish's injuries, the Connecticut State Police's Accident Reconstruction Squad was requested and responded. CSP will continue to be investigated this accident even though Firefighter McLish's condition has vastly improved.

### Community Services

There were 4 car seat installations performed by members of the Community Services unit.

The Citizen Police Academy is active in week 7 of the 13 week program.

Block Watch Police Explorer meetings

Issues 11 Pistol Permit

8 Impounded dogs, 5 adopted, 1 redeemed, 0 euthanized

### Body Cameras

Panasonic has scheduled a Test and Evaluation of their latest body camera for a week evaluation starting on Wednesday, April 13, 2016.

There was a brief discussion regarding the necessity and cost for the body cameras.

Councilor Rivers inquired about if there is enough data obtained to justify the purchase of body cameras by the police department at this time.

Captain Hajdasz stated that there are several mandates that support the purchase of the body cameras for the department. A grant for purchase was obtained in the first fiscal quarter of the year to assist with upgrading data software for maintenance of digital files.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr. indicated that the funding for body cameras will be include with the year-end transfer resolution. The tentative training period will be late summer, early fall. The department will continue to work with the IT Department regarding data storage and other entities regarding policy development.

Councilor Washington asked if there were another community comparable to Bloomfield that are actively utilizing body cameras. He also inquired about Panasonic as a selected vendor for the body cameras.

Councilor Washington asked for clarification regarding the car accident involving an officer, promotional appointments for Sergeant and Detective, areas with significant auto break ins or thefts reported and policies for motor vehicle stops.

#### Evidence/Property Room

With the pending retirement of Officer Bolden, Evidence Officer, the department will conduct a complete inventory of the Evidence/Property Room.

#### CALEA - Accreditation

Chief Hammick report that the department is actively proofing for the reporting period June 2015 through June 2016. To date, the department is on track 25% completed for the required 4 year reporting period.

It was reported that the department issued 13 pistol permits and impounded 14 dogs.

#### BVA

It was reported that revenues continue to increase.

On March 1, 2016, Spring EMT classes began. There are 18 students enrolled. BVA conducted two community CPR certification classes during March 2016. The State of Connecticut approved the town in being a Heart Safe Community. This recognition prepares the town:

- CPR training performed in the community
- Public access to strategic placement of automated external defibrillator (AED's) for use by public safety professionals and other trained community members.
- CPR and AED trained and equipped first responders

BVA also recruited two new volunteers since last month.

### **FIRE**

Chief Riley and Chief Farmer were absent for this meeting.

### **EMS**

Mr. Pat Braun reported on the 18 individuals in the current EMT classes. The cost of the class is now \$600.00 from \$400.00. The committee will discuss possible increases for upcoming classes. There was also discussion regarding giving a discounted rate, to encourage more residents to participant.

The BVA Fund will continue with ongoing donations.

It was noted that Birch Meadows is no longer a banquet facility and has been sold. The committee is actively looking for a new site.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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