

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting for the above-reference subcommittee held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2012 in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Present were: Councilors Washington, Jacobs and Banks. Also present were: Chief Paul Hammick – Bloomfield Police Department, Officer Don Moore, Pat Braun – EMS, Chief William Riley – Center Fire District, Robert Farmer – Blue Hills Fire District and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

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

POLICE

The status of the Police Department is on track with the FY 2011/2012 operating budget. The department is 69% expended through their operating budget and trending well. The leading category in the budget is the Patrol Division, trending approximately 76%. Other divisions are down with regular salary and overtime.

The spring session of the Bloomfield Citizen's Police Awareness Academy conducted Weeks 3,4,5 and 6 in the month of March. Several subjects were covered such as: Penal Code, Search and Seizures, Online Predator, Child Enticement cases and Crime Scene/Evidence Collection. An evaluation was conducted mid-term of the spring session and the department received an overwhelmingly positive response from citizens.

On March 3, 2012, the department was the host community for Capitol Region Substance Abuse Council, in which 60-70 youths participated from Bloomfield, Windsor, Granby, East Granby, Rocky Hill and Avon.

On March 19, 2012, the department conducted a K-9 demonstration for residents and children in the Pershing Park neighborhood, which was received very well.

The Community Services Division of the Police Department conducted a lockdown drill at the Hebrew Academy at 53 Gabb Road on March 20, 2012.

On March 22, 2012, Chief Hammick and Officer Valentin attended an event hosted by the "Ascend Program" in Windsor, CT. This program is for Windsor, Bloomfield, and Hartford citizens who have had contact with the justice system. Ascend will help youth and adults achieve their highest potential by guiding them through a mentoring process focused on personal and skill development.

All required materials have been collected to reinstate the Bloomfield Police Explorers Program. Officer Valentin and Officer Thomas will recruit possibly a dozen kids for the program.

On April 21, 2012, the department will host a Child Safety Seat Clinic at the Copaco Shopping Center.

On May 19, 2012, a K-9 Wash will be held as a Fundraiser for the K-9 unit.

Also on May 19, 2012, the department will support a Child Safety Fun Fair at Home Depot.

Crime Report

Crime statistics are down 8% at the end of the first quarter. The largest categorical rise is in burglaries and thefts. There has been more vigilance on store security and increased presence of officers used as deterrents.

Officer initiated activity is up by 7% and arrests have increased by 2% year-to-date. Calls into the police department are down, which is a positive development.

Councilor Jacobs inquired about the correlation between a decrease in crime and increase in arrests. Chief Hammick stated that arrests may have occurred in other categories such as motor vehicle, etc. In other cases, it may be an outstanding warrant in cases.

Chief Hammick stated that there was not a lot of criminal activity to report. However, a few burglaries have occurred in the Pershing Park neighborhood, which identified and apprehended 3 juveniles.

Personnel Updates

The promotional ceremony for Detective, Lieutenant and Sergeant was held on March 30, 2012 at the Bloomfield Senior Center – Marilyn Michaelson Auditorium. Officer Susan Laiuppa was promoted to Detective, Officer Richard Bowen was promoted to Sergeant and Sergeant Arthur Fredricks was promoted to Lieutenant.

FIRE

Chief Riley of the Center Fire District did not have anything to report at this time.

Interim Chief Farmer of the Blue Hills Fire District reported that call volume decreased this year by approximately 40 calls from last year.

Blue Hills Fire District recently had a Grand Opening of their new firehouse located at 779 Blue Hills Avenue. There are 7-8 firefighters assigned to this firehouse.

Interim Chief Farmer applied and was awarded several grants from Capitol Region. Blue Hills received a grant of \$4500 to purchase a new Command and Accountability Board. This board will show the total accountability of all Fire, Police and EMS at major emergencies for the Town and Region.

Both fire districts belong to Taskforce 52 for all major events in the region. This taskforce includes participation with Bradley Airport, Suffield, Windsor, Windsor Locks, East Granby and the Air National Guard.

Interim Chief Farmer also expressed his interest in being more involved with the community. On April 7, 2012, the district attended an event at Seventh Day Hope Adventist Church, to hand out literature on fire prevention tips and emergency preparedness information to members.

In May, 2012, the district will also attend with the Police Department to the Child Safety Fun Fair at Home Depot to hand out fire prevention pamphlets.

The department also stated that they are trying to boost their Cadet Program. There are currently 4 to 5 active cadets. Membership increased by 7 volunteers for the Fire Department. The budget is in progress for the upcoming fiscal year. The department is currently in negotiations with IFF union for career firefighters.

Both departments report that support in responding to emergencies, volunteers have slightly increased. The mutual aid agreement with both districts work very well.

EMS

Officer Don Moore, Manager of Emergency Management for the Police Department gave a brief update on EMS.

On May 1, 2012, Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) will conduct a Community CPR Program. The goal is to recruit 12-15 citizens for the class. BVA will like to conduct this class every other month.

The new non-transport vehicle for the 2nd Paramedic is online. It was inspected and passed successfully.

During the month of March, 2012, 6 new members (5-EMT and 1-EMR, Emergency Medical Response Technician) joined the department.

BVA received a response from CIRMA regarding insurance for EMT class participants. There will be a \$35.00 fee per student to insure insurance coverage. This cost will increase the cost of the class to include insurance.

Chief Riley and Officer Moore attended a planning meeting to review the Mass Dispensing of Medications at King Phillip Magnet School. Mr. Steve Huleatt, Director of Health for the Town of Bloomfield conducted the meeting.

BVA has a new website at www.bloomfieldems.us or www.bloomfieldems.com

BVA received a total of 137 calls for service for the month of March, 2012:

- 4 calls – no treatment required

- 6 calls – refusals
- 127 calls – transports

On April 23, 2012, BVA will have a combined extraction drill with the Fire department at the Drill Tower on Tunxis Avenue.

A letter of appreciation was received from the President at St. Thomas Seminary, commending the public safety response and services from the Town of Bloomfield.

EMS Committee

The EMS Committee met to discuss the letter of concerns regarding Statistics, Dual Role of EMS Coordinator, Staffing and Marketing strategies. Officer Don Moore and Chief Hammick attended the meeting, which was very productive. There was a request for discussion with the BVA fund to invest and support with marketing goals.

The EMT class originally scheduled for this Spring and Summer will be cancelled. The goal is to have 20 more individuals join BVA by next year.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Banks and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.