

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, and 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Rivers and Washington

Also present were: Chief Paul Hammick, Philip K. Scheck, Jr., Town Manager, India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Absent were: Councilors Hypolite, Neuwirth and Merritt, Chief Robert Farmer – Blue Hills Fire District, Chief William Riley, Center Fire District and Pat Braun - EMS

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 15, 2015.

POLICE

The police department budget is on track with no issues to report.

Crime

There was an increase slightly in crime for the month of August and 1% YTD. Car break-ins continued to occur in mid-August & September. Police reports state that small items were taken. The department will continue to trend in a positive direction.

The Patrol Division will continue their focus on traffic and speed enforcement. Most of this enforcement activity has been funded through state DOT grants. Officers are focusing on speed and unsafe driving conditions with primary locations at Cottage Grove Road, Woodland Avenue, Blue Hills Avenue, Maple Avenue, Duncaster Road, Park Avenue, Brown Street and Tunxis Avenue.

Personnel Updates

Chief Hammick reported that staffing levels are at full capacity. There are 14 police officers eligible to retire by the end of the year.

On September 1, 2015, Officer Stacey Thomas was hired as a certified police officer, retired from the Town of West Hartford.

On September 14, 2015, Lisa Weisbrich, non-certified applicant was hired and will enter the police academy in October.

A written examination was held on Saturday, August 8, 2015 for new. An open house was also held on August 25th and 26th at the Police Department to applicants who passed the initial written exam.

Oral panels began during the month of September for all 100 applicants.

Chief Hammick also provided a status update regarding the Police Cadet Program. There were 4 police cadets applicants, 3 passed the CHIP test and 1 candidate was unable to pass. The department provided some guidance and educational resources to assist candidates with improvement on testing requirements. Current police cadets will have 30 days to retake CHIP test, however, all candidates were allowed to move onto the oral board for interviews.

Mr. Philip Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated that he would like to keep all cadets engaged and may request additional funding from Council to keep the program going as a momentum for focused individuals pursuing a career in law enforcement.

There were no citizen complaints or use of force concerns for the month of August.

CALEA

Chief Hammick will be attending the CALEA conference in November 2015, the finalized accreditation report on the department should be available for review in October 2015.

BVA

The Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) hosted CPR/AED training for town employees. This training was well received by all those who participated.

BVA was able to fill the bulk of shifts with their own volunteers, minimizing services through AMR.

The part time Assistant BVA Coordinator position was reposted. There are 6 candidates scheduled to be interviewed for this position.

There were 5 new members who joined the BVA as volunteers.

BVA has agreed to participate in several events over the next month, the Senior Expo, 4-H Festival and Safety Fair at Home Depot.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Hammick stated that the department will continue to examine body cameras for staff. There are 3 models under review which include, On Scene, View-View and L3 Technologies. Another unit to test for cruisers is modeled from Panasonic, who also provide equipment and technology for both cruisers and body cameras.

One of the issue under consideration is to examine how the department will maintain data for body cameras and cruisers.

The department has also received estimates for this equipment and technology package. For example, taser evidence.com provides service to store information and the police department can search when needed. Approximately, estimated cost for body cameras would be \$150,000 and \$65,000 per year for memory storage.

An additional server was purchased and received for the police department to be self - maintained in house. IT is current rewiring entire department to accommodate this needed request.

In addition, the department drafted a model policy for the police department. Chief Hammick is awaiting State of Connecticut compliance policy parameters of for the actual body cameras system.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Washington to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.