MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019
6:30 P.M.
MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT
(COMMUNITY ROOM)

1. Chairman Robert Santangelo Calls Meeting to Order

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilman Robert Santangelo, Chairman
Councilman Carl Chisem
Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta
Councilman Philip Pessina

STAFF PRESENT: William McKenna – Chief of Police
Michael Timbro – Deputy Chief of Police

STAFF ABSENT: Capt. John Lozefski – Administrative Commander

2. Approval of Minutes – March 18, 2019
Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski moved for approval of the Public Safety Commission (PSC) Minutes for March 18, 2019; Seconded by Councilman Carl Chisem. There being no further discussion or objection. Motion approved.

3. Public Hearing – Matters on the Agenda Only
None

4. Correspondence
Chief William McKenna said that the PSC members will be receiving the bulk of the Atta Boys via E-mail; that they should be receiving the next bulk within the week.

6. Old Business
a. Animal Shelter
Chairman Robert Santangelo reported that he had a meeting the previous week with the Mayor (Daniel Drew); Joe Samolis (Director of Planning, Conservation and Development); Sara (Mendillo), (Mayor’s) Chief of Staff; that they discussed the financing – the way the packages are going to go. He added that they’re planning to meet again the following week, and reiterated that this is still the best way to continue with the project.

At this time, Chief McKenna brought up the subject of not conducting PSC Meetings during the summer months (June, July, and August) as they’ve done in the past – this was discussed in January (2019) – and it was decided to bring it up again in May. Chairman Santangelo asked Fire Chief Robert Kronenberger his thoughts on the matter, and he said they should do what they’ve done in the past – suspend the PSC for those three (3) months, but have the ability to call a meeting should it be necessary. Chief McKenna concurred. Chairman Santangelo asked the PSC members and they agreed unanimously.
6. Old Business (cont’d)
Chief McKenna brought up another subject regarding the transition of the Soup Kitchen to Green Street. He said that he e-mailed the plan to the PSC members earlier in the day, adding that Captain (Gary) Wallace has been meeting with the Interim Director Ron Krum since this move was announced; that Mr. Krum is interim until they make a permanent Executive Director; that on their next Commission Meeting, the Soup Kitchen’s Agenda includes their hours of service, the building’s accessibility, cameras, lighting, parking, and Police presence in the transitioning from Main to Green (Streets); which is everything the (Police) Department would want them to talk about before they open their doors; and which is currently slated for December, if all goes well. He explained that Captain Wallace is currently an acting member on their Board of Directors. However, he’s recommending a younger Community Policing Officer; specifically, Officer Jesse Santostefano as a potential candidate for this role.

As far as the neighborhood issues, he plans to discuss the Department’s needs to allocate resources wherever needed. However, they want to have a delicate balance of coverage in the Downtown area; that they don’t want to take both of their North End Beat Officers and just camp them out on Green Street all day because then the emergent is in on Main Street.

7. New Business
None

8. Public Hearing Reopened – Other Matters
Councilwoman Kleckowski informed Chief McKenna what a great job was done on Coleman Street with the rash of car thefts in the area.

9. Meeting Adjourned…
Councilwoman Kleckowski made a Motion to adjourn; Seconded by Councilman Chisem. There being no further discussion or objection, Motion approved.

Next Public Safety Commission Meeting: Monday, September 15, 2019, 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
Rosa B. Perichi
Recording Secretary