

**LOWELL METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 10, 2013**

The Lowell Metropolitan Police Commission met in regular session on October 10, 2013 at the Lowell Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

**I. Roll Call**

Commissioner Keith Kilmer, present  
Commissioner Sharon Patterson, present  
Commissioner John Piper, present  
Commissioner Allan Fox, present  
Commissioner Martin Freeman, absent  
Chief Erik Matson, present  
Attorney Nicole Bennett, present

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a brief moment of silence.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 10, 2013 EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Executive Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Patterson. 4 ayes, motion passed.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 12, 2013 REGULAR MEETING**

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Regular Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fox. 4 ayes, motion passed.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 12, 2013 EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Commissioner Patterson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Executive Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Piper. 4 ayes, motion passed.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 7, 2013 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Executive Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Patterson. 4 ayes, motion passed.

**VII. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/EXPENDITURES**

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the Claims and Expenditures and to send them to Town Council for payment, seconded by Commissioner Fox. 4 ayes, motion passed.

**VIII. CHIEF'S REPORT AND REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES OR MEMBERS**

Chief Matson stated that he found three companies for the Promotional Testing. The company that he feels best fits the Lowell Police Departments needs will be IO Solutions. The tests will cost \$75.00 each and the study guides will cost \$155.00 each.

Chief Matson stated that the new Officers, Chris Thompson and Nicholas Kaczmarczyk completed all the facets of the PERF application and their applications have been sent to Indianapolis and are awaiting approval.

Chief advised the Commission that the Lowell Police Department will be participating in the DEA Drug Take Back Initiative on October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lowell Police Station.

Chief Matson stated that the Commission will need to discuss the Cedar Lake Joint Cooperation Inter-local Agreement and give feed back to the Town Council on how they feel about it.

Chief stated that he was approached by Superintendent Kleefish of Tri Creek Schools, in reference to the hiring of a School Resource Officer. Chief said that originally Mr. Kleefish stated that he would use part of a grant to pay half of the Officer's salary and the Police Department would pay the other half, at \$36,000 per year. Later, Mr. Kleefish stated that they would pay the Officer for time spent in the schools, which would then be about \$25,000 a year and add another \$10,000 to the Police Department's budget.. Chief Matson further stated that he has already signed up an Officer to begin training to become a resource Officer based on the previous numbers given. The Chief asked the council for their guidance in whether the Police Department should continue to train a Resource Officer.

## IX. INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

### X. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve IO Solutions Tests for promotional testing, seconded by Commissioner Piper. 4 ayes, motion passed.

### XI. NEW BUSINESS

President Kilmer asked if Tri Creek School System has already been approved for a grant for a Resource Officer. Chief Matson replied that they have not been approved yet and have only applied. He also stated that it was \$100,000 grant and that \$25,000 of that would be spent on a Resource Officer instead of the original \$36,000 discussed. Tri-Creek Schools came up with the \$25,000 based on the amount of time they feel the Officer will be in the schools, about 20 hours a week. A Commissioner asked if the Resource Officer would need arrest power and Chief Matson replied, "yes," and that it was a stipulation of receiving the grant. He also stated that the Resource Officer would have to be a graduate of the Academy and go to a training siminar that would cost about \$700 at the expense of the Police Department. Chief Matson pointed out that the expense on the Police Department would be coming out of the budget, whereas the School system would not be at a loss of money since they will paying out of funds from the grant.

President Kilmer suggested that they should not put the training off and to proceed with the training in good faith. He stated that he feels a Resource Officer would be a great asset for the schools, but that Chief Matson should use his own discretion, as he is dealing directly with the Police Departments finances. No motion needed.

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the promotion of Chief Matson from Corporal status to Sergeant status, seconded by Commissioner Fox. 4 ayes, motion passed.

President Kilmer requested more information concerning the Cedar Lake Joint Inter Local Cooperation Agreement. Chief Matson stated that the Attorney for Cedar Lake drew up an agreement for both Lowell and Cedar Lake. Each town will keep a tally every time the other town calls them out for assistance and at the end of each month the Departments will make a report and reimburse the other at the end of the year for the difference in cost. Commissioner Patterson asked if Lake County charges us for mutual aid requested and Chief Matson replied, "No." President Kilmer asked what the benefits to this contract are. Attorney Bennett stated that the benefits to the contract will be having Cedar Lake's assistance should Lake County not be readily available. Attorney Bennett also stated that some of the reservations she has concerning the contract is the looseness of the exchange of cost. For example, in the cost of what Officers are being paid during the assist, the parameters of the agreement are not solid. The costs are not final and to be determined. It should be noted that Lowell and Cedar Lake have always assisted each other without any exchange of monies, and have maintained a good relationship. After some discussion Commissioner Patterson made a motion to Disapprove the Cedar Lake Joint Inter Local Cooperation Agreement as written, seconded by Commissioner Piper. 4 ayes, motion passed. Commissioner Piper made a motion to set the Promotional Testing for the week of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Fox. 4 ayes, motion passed.

## XII. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS

### XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chief announced that Trick-or-Treat will be on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 p.m. President Kilmer announced the next Commission Meeting will be on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 2013, at 8 p.m.

### IVX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Piper made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fox. 4 ayes, motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

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Keith Kilmer, President

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Martin Freeman, Secretary