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**MINUTES-SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014 7:00 P.M.
11 FRANKLIN STREET
SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Members present: Lucy McConologue, Steve Chucta, Robert Koskelowski, John Popik and Frank Conroy. Also in attendance: Chief Metzler, LT. Satkowski, members of the department, Deputy Selectwoman Nicole Klarides-Ditria, Town Attorneys, press and public.

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 7:00 p.m. by Chairwoman McConologue.
2. **Pledge of allegiance:** was led by Commissioner Chucta.
3. **Public Comment:** Deputy First Selectwoman Nicole Klarides-Ditria read a letter into record from First Selectman Kurt Miller that he apologized for not being able to attend the meeting and that he supports the restructuring of the police department.
4. **Approval of minutes of special meeting on January 13, 2014**
Steve Chucta/Robert Koskelowski motion to accept the minutes.
Motion: 3:2 (John Popik and Frank Conroy abstain).
5. Steve Chucta/Frank Conroy motion to go into executive session at 7:02 p.m. to interview candidate for patrol position. In attendance: The Board only. **Motion: 5:0**

Candidate goes into executive session at 7: 10 p.m. and comes out at 7:17 p.m.

Chief Metzler and LT. Satkowski go into executive session to give testimony at 7:18 p.m.

Robert Koskelowski/Steve Chucta motion to come out of executive session at 7:29 p.m.
No votes or motions taken. **Motion: 5:0**

Robert Koskelowski/Frank Conroy motion to offer a conditional offer of employment to the Seymour Police Department to Patrick McCabe. **Motion: 5:0** Patrick McCabe accepts.

6. **Commissioner's Comments:** None.

7. Old Business

- 7a. Report from Patrol Division – Board accepted report as handed out.
- 7 b. Det. Division - Board accepted report as handed out.
- 7 c. K-9 – Board accepted report as handed out. K-9 has returned to work.
- 7 d. Fleet Maintenance – Board accepted report as handed out.

8. New Business: Restructuring plan presentation and take possible action.

Chief Metzler gave an overview on the plan to restructure the police department. This plan would save the town \$ 70,593.00. The plan consists of a Chief, Deputy Chief, Inspector and Patrol Commanders. The patrol commanders would give the department a better handle on the day to day operations, will take on more tasks and be in charge of their shift. The Captain and Lieutenant’s position would be vacant at this time. The plan will enhance the chain of command and give us middle management. By moving people into command positions will give the department more opportunity to send officers to the FBI Academy.

Town Attorney Richard Buturla states the Board of Police Commissioners has the authority to create supervisory positions that are not within the bargaining unit.

Town Attorney Warren Holcomb spoke with Union Attorney Dan Esposito who is fine with the proposed plan. Pay increases would still have to be negotiated.

Commissioner Conroy wanted to know if the Captain and Lieutenant’s positions are still there but are vacant so that at a later date this department has a need for those positions they would just have to be full filled. Chief Metzler reports that is correct.

Commissioner Koskelowski stated that the department has gone through a reconstruction before in the past. If the Chief and LT are recommending that this would make our department run more efficient and better protection for our residents, I would support it 100 % only after we know what the final negotiations would be. Also respects the First Selectman and Deputy First Selectwoman’s opinions.

Commissioner Popik wanted to know are the Commanders, Inspector and Deputy Chief are they union or salary jobs and will the Deputy Chief be considered second in command of the department? Chief Metzler states they are union jobs and yes the Deputy Chief will be second in command. Would like to see the next Chief have a 3 year contract with some prerequisites. Feels that the command structure is just a few title changes and it could be achieved a bit more cost effective. Would like to see two Lieutenants positions created-one to handle administrative duties the other for patrol duties.

Chairwoman McConologue wanted to know if the figures still need to be negotiated as they are a guesstimate. Chief states that is correct. The Captain and Lieutenant position are not being eliminated they are just not being funded at this time.

Union President John D’Antona states the membership knows it needs to be voted on and the members feel it is a good thing for the union.

Chief Metzler states that the Board will interview the current six sergeants and make a decision from there on the patrol commanders and would like it implemented as soon as possible.

Frank Conroy/Steve Chucta motion to accept the proposed plan as proposed by Chief Metzler to this Board. **Motion: 4:1**

Votes taken: Frank Conroy-yes
Robert Koskelowski- yes
John Popik- no
Steve Chucta-yes
Lucy McConologue-yes

Frank Conroy/John Popik motion to have a five minute recess at 8:05 p.m. **Motion: 5:0**

Robert Koskelowski/Frank Conroy motion to come out of recess at 8:10 p.m. **Motion: 5:0**

9. Management Report: Chief Metzler reports the over time is a little on the high side, income is doing well, seizure account to be closed and a letter from the officer that was requested was handed out.

10. Correspondence: Letter from Sgt. Rinaldi commending Officers Miceli, Oczkowski, Pinto, Holland and Walsh for helping a resident who wanted to harm himself.

11. Other Business: Budget meeting will be sometime in March.

12. ADJOURNMENT Steve Chucta/Robert Koskelowski motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. **Motion: 5:0**

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Spaulding
Recording Secretary

