

**POLICE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
July 7, 2011**

1. Call to Order

Chairman McIvor called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Darien City Hall.

Committee members in attendance: Chairman McIvor, Alderman Poteraske and Alderman Joerg Seifert

Elected Officials in attendance: Treasurer, Michael Coren

Staff members in attendance: Deputy Chief David Skala, Deputy Chief John Cooper, Detective Brette Glomb

Guest/Residents in attendance: Mr. Brian Waterman, Principal, Hinsdale South High School; Mr. John Gonczy, 2228 Donegal Drive, Darien; Mr. Chris Lambiasi, 7749 Lyman Avenue, Darien

2. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Seifert made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Police Committee meeting; Alderman Poteraske seconded the motion. Motion approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes.

3. Communications

There were no communications presented.

4. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

5. New Business

a. Stop Sign Marlborough & Lyman

Chairman McIvor stated that the Committee had a request from a resident to evaluate the need for a stop sign at this intersection. During the April 7th Police Committee Meeting the same request was reviewed. At that time, the only request that had been made was via an anonymous letter. No action was taken.

Deputy Chief Skala reviewed the facts of the Agenda Memo with the Committee. The Committee then talked about the need for a stop or yield sign. The current position of the Committee is to closely evaluate the need for any sign. Chairman McIvor asked if there were any comments or discussions from the other aldermen. Alderman Poteraske thinks if we were to follow the idea of yield and stop sign placement when requested, we would have to put two hundred of them up. Alderman Seifert commented that we should not set that precedent.

Chairman McIvor stated the recommendation is that no stop sign be placed at this site then asked if anyone in the audience would like to comment. Mr. Chris Lambiasi, 7749 Lyman Avenue, Darien, stated that he was the person that sent the e-mail. He thinks there needs to be a stop sign because traffic never stops. Chairman McIvor told Mr. Lambiasi if he could get

area residents with the same concern to sign a petition requesting a sign at that location, it could be revisited at another meeting. Chairman McIvor told Mr. Lambiasi to follow up with Deputy Chief Skala via e-mail. Deputy Chief Skala responded to Mr. Lambiasi that the issue could be again placed on the August 4th Police Committee Meeting if the petition was obtained, however, if no communication was received, then no action would be taken.

Chairman McIvor said regarding Item 5a, the Committee will take no action at this time.

b. Agenda Memo Annual DUMEG Dues

Deputy Chief Skala reported that we are under an agreement with the DuPage Metropolitan Enforcement Group (DUMEG). We do not supply them with manpower so we have a fair share to pay which is \$520.00 per authorized officer, which comes out to \$19,240.00. This is a budgeted item. There being no questions or comments from the Aldermen or audience, Chairman McIvor asked for a motion to send this to City Council approval at their July 18th meeting. Alderman Seifert made a motion, seconded by Alderman Poteraske. Motion approved by voice vote of 3 ayes.

6. **Department Report**

c. Hinsdale South School Resource Officer Summary

Deputy Chief Skala asked if this Department Report could come first on the agenda, since representatives of both the Police Department and Hinsdale South High School were present. Detective Brette Glomb gave a presentation on his function as a School Resource Officer at the high school. He discussed a class assignment some students did on Darien's curfew. Principal Brian Waterman of Hinsdale South High School was there to answer any questions that may arise. The Committee's concern is whether Detective Glomb provides information to the students regarding local laws, specifically curfew. He replied that he does provide information at an initial orientation session for students and that during this upcoming year he will include the criteria for curfew.

a. Overview of Monthly Statistics

Deputy Chief Skala advised the Committee of the traffic statistics for the July 4th holiday weekend which included the number of traffic stops, tickets issued and number of DUI arrests. Deputy Chief Skala advised the Committee that August 2nd is considered to be National Night Out. This is a community event where people are encouraged to go outside of their homes, mingle with the neighbors and leave their outside lights on. The City of Darien has not planned any formal events, however, the concept will be mentioned at the July 18th City Council Meeting.

Deputy Chief Skala reviewed the staffing report with the Committee. An updated hard copy of the report was provided to the Committee. Chairman McIvor commented on the four officers who were out on sick leave and questioned when they were expected back. Deputy Chief Skala stated that currently three officers are on Workman's Comp due to on-duty injuries and another officer is on medical leave for a non work related condition. There is no definite date of return for any of these officers. Alderman Seifert questioned how the police department comes to their staffing requirements. He requested a more tangible gauge, other than the numerical statistical report, illustrating what criteria determines adequate staffing.

Deputy Chief Skala replied that there are various factors to determine staffing levels and these had been discussed with the Committee at one of the first meetings. These factors include, but are not limited to, the size of the city, response time, resident and officer safety.

Deputy Chief Skala advised the Committee that based on the request of the patrol sergeants, the street staffing level would not be reduced to 4 officers from 5 on the weekends. This was due to the increase of calls during the summer months. The Committee approved of this decision with the consensus being that staff could adjust the staffing levels based on the need. Deputy Chief Skala also advised the Committee that staffing was increased during the July 4th holiday; Alderman Poteraske asked if this created additional overtime to which Deputy Chief Skala responded no, that this was built into the staffing level scheduled.

Deputy Chief Cooper raised the issue that if Deputy Chief Skala or he was not selected to become the Chief, then one of the Deputy Chiefs ranks would be reduced to Sergeant. He made the Committee aware if that happened it could result in one of the Sergeants being demoted to patrol officer and one of the patrol officers could potentially lose their job.

Chairman McIvor requested that as part of the Department Head Report during the July 18th City Council Meeting information on police staffing be provided.

b. Darien Fest – 9-1-1 Tribute

Deputy Chief Skala related information on the Darien Fest- 9-1-1 Tribute which will be held on September 11th during Darien Fest. Tri-State FD is coordinating this event. We will invite neighboring communities, but some will probably be having their own memorials that day. The Tri State Fire Department has received a portion of a beam from one of the twin towers. They are going to make a memorial in front of their station on Plainfield Road with the beam.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment other than comments made during the individual items' discussion.

Aldermen's Comments

Alderman Poteraske asked about the two new ordinances that were being worked on. One was for administrative towing fees and one for booking fees. Deputy Chief Cooper explained he is working with City Administrator Vana on procuring an Administrative Judge for hearings. Hopefully this will be in place by August 1st. The booking fees ordinance should be in place sooner. Deputy Chief Skala said we will have an update on this at the August 4th meeting.

Deputy Chief Skala said that the goal is also to have the revised Rules and Regulations from the Fire & Police Commission presented to the Committee at the August meeting. Attorney Murphey is reviewing them now. Chairman McIvor asked that we put that as an item for discussion on the agenda for August 4th meeting. Alderman Seifert said he would not be at the August 4th meeting. Chairman McIvor asked if there would be any items up for a vote and Deputy Chief Skala replied he suspected only the Police Commission Rules and Regulations. Deputy Chief Skala then went on to explain the Rules & Regulations. Alderman Seifert states that he would not be at the next Police Committee Meeting, but did not request that the date be changed.

8. Next Meeting Date

Chairman McIvor announced that the next Committee meeting will be on Thursday, August 4, 2011, 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

10. Adjournment

The Committee Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m., motion by Alderman Poteraske, second by Alderman Seifert; motion carried by voice vote of three ayes.

Minutes Submitted by: Deputy Chief David Skala

Approved: _____
Date

Alderman: _____
Joerg Seifert

Chairman: _____
Sylvia McIvor

Alderman: _____
John Poteraske