

**DISTRICT AUTHORITY MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2024**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M. WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MEMBERS PRESENT: A/C NORMAND PERRON, A/M STEVEN GAGNON, A/M KATHLEEN HAYES, A/M MICHAEL VASSAR

MEMBERS ABSENT: A/VC BRIAN MAYNARD

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION-A/M GAGNON, SECOND A/M MICHAEL VASSAR TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON JULY 08, 2024. UV

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: DAVID BELLEVILLE, POWHATTAN ST, PUTNAM QUESTIONED POLICE CHIEF FERACE ON DENIAL OF A PISTOL PERMIT REQUEST MADE SEVERAL YEARS AGO. CHIEF FERACE REPLIED THAT UPON DENIAL OF PERMIT REQUEST, MR. BELLEVILLE WAS TOLD THAT HE COULD APPEAL THE DENIAL TO THE CT. BOARD OF FIREARMS EXAMINERS. MR. BELLEVILLE DID FILE AN APPEAL, AND CHIEF FERACE'S DENIAL WAS UPHELD. IF MR. BELLEVILLE HAS FURTHER QUESTIONS, HE WILL HAVE TO TAKE THEM TO THE CT. BOARD OF FIREARMS EXAMINERS.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: REVENUE COLLECTOR'S REEQUEST FOR TAX REFUNDS: TO: J P MORGAN CHASE BANK, MONROE, LA ON G/L10-22MV—VEHICLE TRADED--\$179.64 MOTIONA/M GAGNON SECOND A/M VASSAR TO APPROVE PROPERTY TAX REFUND. UV

CORRESPONDENCE FROM STEVE SUDOL: LETTER TO DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT REQUESTING IF THE PSA DORM COULD BE USED AS TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR LOCAL FIREMEN, POLICE & EMT PEOPLE WHO MAY WISH TO LIVE & WORK IN PUTNAM. PSA IS PRIVATELY OWNED, AND HOUSING IS NOT NECESSARY. REQUEST DISMISSED.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF RICK DIVENCENZO GAVE THE REPORT. 3 NEW VOLUNTEERS BECAME REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. ONE ON A 6 MONTH PROBATION, 1 REINSTATEMENT, AND ONE FIRE CERTIFIED MEMBER FROM ANOTHER DEPARTMENT WHO MOVED TO PUTNAM. DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO 15 FIRE CALLS IN JULY 2024 WITH A TOTAL OF 249 MAN HOURS. 17 VOLUNTEERS ASSISTED WITH THE TOWN FIREWORKS SHOW. 6 VOLUNTEERS ATTENDED THE VERIZON BACKPACK/TOUCH A TRUCK GIVEAWAY. 5 VOLUNTEERS ATTENDED THE YMCA DAY CAMP. 5 VOLUNTEERS DID STANDBY AT THE TOWN'S RIVER FIRE. FIRE CHIEF CAMPBELL HAS APPLIED TO THE STATE FORESTRY DIVISION FOR A 50/50 GRANT TO PURCHASE FORESTRY EQUIPMENT AND FORESTRY PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. THE FIRE/POLICE BUILDING GENERATOR SHOULD BE HERE IN OCTOBER, AND INSTALLED THEREAFTER.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: POLICE CHIEF CHRISTOPHER FERACE GAVE THE REPORT. DISPATCH CENTER RECEIVED 1105 CALLS FOR SERVICE IN JULY 2024. OFFICERS INITIATED 55 INVESTIGATIONS WITH 68 CRIMINAL OFFENSES REPORTED INCLUDING 15 FELONIES. A TOTAL OF 27 ARRESTS WERE MADE THAT INCLUDED 11 BY WARRANT, 14 ON SITE, AND 2 JUVENILE ARRESTS. OFFICERS RESPONDED TO 10 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS, 14 MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, THAT INCLUDES PRIVATE LOTS, AND 10 ALARM ACTIVATIONS. POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED TOTAL INCOME OF \$22,535.62 THAT INCLUDED \$21,014.50 FOR OUTSIDE POLICE WORK.

IN JULY, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED 2 SEPARATE REPORTS OF STOLEN MOTORCYCLES, APPROXIMATELY ONE-WEEK APART. A FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF TECHNOLOGY, LED TO A RESIDENCE IN DANIELSON WHERE ONE OF THE MOTORCYCLES WAS BELIEVED TO BE STORED. AT THE REQUEST OF THE PUTNAM POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE CT STATE POLICE RESPONDED TO THE DANIELSON RESIDENCE AND LOCATED NOT ONLY ONE, BUT A SECOND MOTORCYCLE STOLEN THE WEEK EARLIER. THE CT STATE POLICE SUBSEQUENTLY ARRESTED THE SUSPECT IN POSSESSION OF THE TWO STOLEN MOTORCYCLES. BOTH MOTORCYCLES RECOVERED WERE RETURNED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE OWNERS.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE COMPETITIVE TESTING PROCESS CONDUCTED BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL OF EASTERN CT, OFFICER HAILEY GRIFFIN BECAME THE NEWEST DETECTIVE REPLACING BART RAMOS UPON HIS RETIREMENT. DETECTIVE GRIFFIN ASSUMED HER NEW ASSIGNMENT EFFECTIVE 07/08/2024, AND HAS HIT THE GROUND RUNNING, TAKING ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF VARIOUS SERIOUS INVESTIGATIONS.

THE TOWN OF PUTNAM IS CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD TOWARDS THE MIGRATION ONTO THE CONNECTICUT LAND MOBILE RADIO NETWORK. (700/800 BAND RADIO SYSTEM) THIS IS A PRIORITY THAT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT CHANGES TO THE STATE RADIO SYSTEM AT THE SAME TIME. CAPTAIN LUSSIER AND THE CHIEF FERACE ARE ACTIVELY WORKING WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO INSURE WE ARE BROUGHT ONTO THE SYSTEM WITH THEM. AS IT STANDS NOW, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IS EXPLORING THE USE OF ARPA FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE TOWN MIGRATION PROJECT WHICH WILL INCLUDE POLICE, DISPATCH, AND THE SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS. CHIEF FERACE STATED THAT HE IS 100% SUPPORTIVE OF THIS PROJECT AS THIS PROJECT WAS ON THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT LIST. THIS SYSTEM WILL FOR THE FIRST TIME GIVE THE

PUTNAM POLICE DIRECT INTEROPERABILITY AND IMMEDIATE COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE CT STATE POLICE, KILLINGLY POLICE, AND THE PLAINFIELD POLICE AS NECESSARY, AND THE MAJORITY OF POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN EASTERN CT, DURING EMERGENCIES OR ANY PRE-PLANNED LARGE SCALE MUTUAL AID EVENT.

ON TUESDAY, 08/13/2024, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL SWEAR IN JUSTIN-COREY LE AS THE NEWEST POLICE OFFICER TO FILL ONE OF THE TWO VACANCIES. JUSTIN IS A GRADUATE OF NORWICH FREE ACADEMY AND RECENTLY GRADUATED FROM MITCHELL COLLEGE WITH A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. IN THE SUMMER OF 2023, OFFICER LE COMPLETED HIS STUDENT INTERNSHIP WITH THE PUTNAM POLICE. AS JUSTIN STARTS HIS NEW CAREER, H WILL BE THE THIRD GENERATION OF THE LE FAMILY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, ALONGSIDE HIS FATHER AND GRANDFATHER. ON FRIDAY, 08/16/2024, HE WILL START HIS RCRUIT TRAINING AT THE EASTERN REGION POLICEACADEMY IN NORWICH. HIS EXPECTED GRADUATION FROM THE POLICE ACADEMY IS JANUARY OF 2025. UPON GRADUATION, HE WILL UNDERGO A 12 WEEK FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM, AND ONCE THAT IS COMPLETED, HE WILL BE ASSIGNED TO A PATROL SHIFT.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ADDRESS "PACKET OF ISSUES" SUBMITTED BY DAVID BELLEVILLE: MOTION A/M GAGNON SECOND A/M HAYES TO TABLE ISSUE TO SEPTEMBER 09, 2024, DISTRICT AUTHORITY MEETING. UV

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

MOTION A/M VASSAR SECOND A/M GAGNON TO CLOSE MEETING AT 6:29PM. UV

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**LUCILLE HERRICK
DISTRICT CLERK**