



James Krupienski  
Acting Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

300 Garfield Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

## Police Department



Stephen Clark  
Chief of Police

**MINUTES  
POLICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Zoom Webinar / Hybrid Meeting  
7:00 P.M.  
April 5, 2023**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
IN NEWINGTON, CT  
2023 APR 21 AM 10:00  
*James O. Krupienski*  
Town Clerk

**In Attendance:** Chief Clark  
Officer Derrick Walker  
Patricia Mahoney  
Paul Alderucci  
Nancy Baxter

Called to Order at 7:05 PM

**I. UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES**

**A. Staffing**

The department currently has 6 police officer vacancies and 4 officers at the police academy for recruit training. The department continues to see very few applicants for police officer positions.

**C. Calls for Service January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023.**

Total Arrests **259**

Burglary **12**

Larceny **217**

Car Breaks **50**

Stolen Cars **17**

Robbery **5**

Sexual Assaults **6**

Traffic Stop Attempt- Failure to Stop **29**

Traffic Stops **914**

**D. Activities**

The department is partnering with the Newington Rotary Club to offer a Youth Police Academy to middle school and high school students. The week-long academy will take place following the school year at the end of June.

**II. CENTER FOR POLICING EQUITY REPORT**

The report was recently release and available at  
<https://justicenavigator.org/report/newingtonassessment-2022/summary>

The Center for Policing Equity hosted a community round table on February 24, 2023, at the Parks and Recreation Community Room to discuss the contents of the report. The department has been reviewing the report and comparing the information contained in the report with data presently being collected at the department and state level.

### III. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT AWARD FOR DE-ESCALATION TRAINING

The Newington Police Departments has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) in the amount of \$68,000. The department is only one of 45 other police departments in the nation to receive this grant award. The Law Enforcement Agency De-Escalation Grant provides funding to support police officer de-escalation and duty to intervene training efforts. Funding will be used to purchase an Advanced Training Simulator that will provide scenario based interactive use-of-force training, tactical judgement training, and de-escalation training. The system is designed to allow police trainers the ability to provide realistic hands-on scenario-based exercises with detailed debriefing and after-action review. The system has over 800 real world situations that will allow officers to use their skills in high stress situations. Newington officers will also receive training in Law Enforcement Active De-escalation Strategies that will help officers in avoiding and resolving confrontations with uncooperative individuals. Officers will receive training in communications skills and evidence based Active De-escalation Strategies. All department supervisors will receive training in reviewing and analyzing use-of-force incidents. The training will assist department supervisors in identifying training needs as well as identifying trend patterns to reduce use-of-force incidents. The training is being provided by KFD Training and Consultation LLC.

### IV. DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

The police department operating budget request for fiscal year 2023 & 2024 is 8.4 million dollars. This represents a 3.74 percent increase from the previous year. The increase is a result of contractual salary obligations and an additional police officer position added in the budget due to economic development in town. The department is also requesting \$210,000 in the town's capital improvement budget to replace in-car cameras for patrol cars. The camera system is a state mandate as a result of the police accountability Public Act.

### V. POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The police department made 914 traffic stops during January 1, 2023, through March 31, 2023. The department is focusing on DUI, speeding, red light, and aggressive driving violations. The department is finding officers have less time to focus on traffic enforcement due to total calls for service up 17%, arrests up 35%, larceny complaints up

69%, while department staffing is currently down 20%. The reduction in department staffing is making it increasingly difficult to provide police services.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. MEMBER COMMENT

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Stephen Clark