



To: Monica Di Costanzo Chair, Fiscal Committee of the Board of Representatives

From: Thaddeus K. Jankowski Director, Office of Public Safety, Health & Welfare

Date: April 27, 2018

Subject: Stamford Park Police

Good Evening Representative Di Costanzo,

I am providing the following information as a follow up to the budget discussion from the Fiscal Committee meeting related to Park Safety and Security.

The Stamford Police Department (SPD) is the primary crime fighting agency in the City of Stamford and provides for approximately 8,000 calls for service in Stamford Parks, which includes proactive Park based patrols.

SPD is supported by the current park police. The two park police officers are experienced individuals who provide a good service when on duty.

We are hoping to further integrate police services and schedules for park safety. However, there are Patrol and time utilization issues and other scheduling concerns that require contract negotiations for resolve.

To provide a recap of the hiring process last year when the Park Police were down by one, and we attempted to hire park police officer(s), three people were interested. Two candidates backed out during the hiring process and the third candidate left because of the State of Connecticut requirements for hiring armed police officers, which includes POST Certification, passing the physical fitness, polygraph, etc.

At the Fiscal meeting I asked that the Parks and Recreation budget remain so that the Office of Public Safety could implement a realistic and financially sound Park Safety Program to support the efforts of the SPD and expand the current Park Police program.

If the requested budget does not survive the budget process it will be difficult to add to existing park police officers and there will be a reduction to the existing Park Police hours. Because of funding, options will be limited in responding to resident park safety concerns.

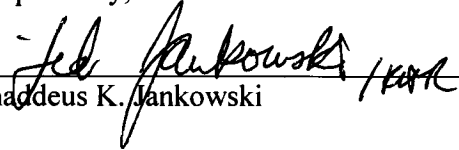
Some of the Public Safety options being considered are:

1. A Stamford Police Department (SPD) Park Detail for the season.
2. SPD Park Quality of Life Detail(s).
3. Hiring of additional Park Police.
4. Increased Utilization of existing Park Police Officers.
5. A Park Enforcement Patrol.

Note: Based on funding and needs there could be a hybrid strategy of options.

I hope this information is helpful to the Fiscal Committee regarding Park Safety and Security.

Respectfully,


Thaddeus K. Jankowski

cc: Board of Representatives Fiscal Committee members
M. Quinones, President, Board of Representatives