

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

## State, Consentino to discuss hours

By Krista Zanin  
*Eagle-Tribune Writer*

ATKINSON -- A hearing has been scheduled by the state's Police Standards and Training Council to see if police Chief Philip V. Consentino works more hours than is permitted for part-time certified police officers.

The agency's director, Earl M. Sweeney, said yesterday the council will meet in private with Chief Consentino on June 27 "to discuss his hours and how they are accounted for."

They will look at Chief Consentino's work as a police officer and what he does for the town's elderly, Mr. Sweeney said.

A part-time police chief for the past 22 years, Chief Consentino also has served as the town's director of elderly affairs.

The hearing follows a compliance audit of the department the agency ordered after resident and Hampstead police Officer Dale A. Child filed a complaint regarding Chief Consentino's hours.

Mrs. Childs filed the complaint after the Feb. 12 deliberative session in which a citizens petition calling for a full-time chief by July 1 was changed to July 1, 2010.

Prior to the deliberative session, Chief Consentino sent residents a letter telling them the town basically has a full-time chief because he works between 35 and 45 hours a week while only being paid a part-time salary.

Mr. Sweeney said the compliance audit, which occurs whenever a complaint is filed, studied all officers' hours and training. He said the department was "shipshape" in other regards and the only question is whether Chief Consentino works more hours than permitted.

Part-time officers, whether rookie patrolmen or longtime police chiefs, are limited to working 1,300 hours a year because they are not trained as full-time officers.

[Next Story: Back to headlines](#) →

---

---

Copyright© 2000 Eagle-Tribune Publishing. All Rights Reserved. Contact [Online editor](#)