

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 5:00PM**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Bill Turner, Vice Chairman Patricia Coan  
Commissioner Richard Balestracci, & Commissioner Jessica Mills  
Chief Jay DelGrosso, Deputy Chief Todd Olson Captain Bryan Schneider

**Absent:** Secretary Lisa Tepper Bates

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Turner Called the meeting to order at 5:00PM

**2. Remarks of the Public**

Tim Tilney, a resident of Pawcatuck for 16 years addressed the Police Commissioners on a petition that he would like to form to reduce speed inside of Pawcatuck between Police Station, and bridge. He also would like the speed limit to be lowered from 35 to 25 upon entering Pawcatuck. Chief DelGrosso commented that a request has already been put in.

**3. Correspondence**

**NONE**

**4. New Business**

**a. Mystic Irish Parade \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Tom Tabor from the Mystic Irish Parade presented the Commissioners with the plans for the Mystic Irish Parade happening on March 24, 2024. Mr. Tabor noted that no changes to the parade have been made. Chief DelGrosso added that the race has a large impact on the town. Deputy Chief Olson asked if there were any big headliners at the parade? Not yet

Vice Chairman Patricia Coan made a motion to approve the Mystic Irish Parade as submitted to the Police Commission subject to the meeting of the Town's insurance requirements, and any issue that the Police Department may arise prior to the event. Seconded by Commissioner Richard Balestracci. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

**b. Mystic Half Marathon \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Deputy Chief Olson reported on the Mystic Half Marathon. The organizers couldn't make the meeting. No changes have been made, and the plans have been reviewed by the with Chief DelGrosso, and Captain Schneider

Vice Chairman Patricia Coan made a Motion to Approve the Mystic Half Marathon as submitted to the Police Commission subject to the meeting of the Town's



insurance requirements, and any issue that the Police Department may arise prior to the event. Seconded by Commissioner Richard Balestracci. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

**c. Good Friday Walk \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Chief DelGrosso reported that the organizers couldn't make the meeting. The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual walk will take place on Route 1 and Route 27 going from Mystic Congregation Church to Old Mystic Methodist Church. This is a low impact to the Department.

Vice Chairman Patricia Coan made a motion to approve the Good Friday Walk as submitted to the Police Commission subject to the meeting of the Town's insurance requirements, and any issue that the Police Department may arise prior to the event. Seconded by Commissioner Richard Balestracci. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

**d. Planning & Zoning Text & Map Amendment Application: Maple Lawn Farm, LLC \*COMMENTS NEEDED\***

Paul Cerullo from Maple Lawn Farms addressed the Police Commission regarding the application to host events on the property. He noted that there is a new parking layout 350 ft well line to event area, and events on the Farm will not hold more than 200 people. Chief DelGrosso added that Paul has been very responsive. Chairman Turner added that the investment to the property is spectacular.

**e.Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Pawcatuck Farms 455 Liberty Street, Pawcatuck \*COMMENTS NEEDED\***

Jeremy from Pawcatuck Farms addressed the Police Commissioners about the Master Plan Application for a Multi-Family Housing & Rec Center at 455 Liberty Street, Pawcatuck. The complex would be comprised of 124 units, a rec center that would be run by the YMCA, and 10,000 square feet of commercial space. The Berkshire Bank currently at 455 Liberty Street would be relocated within the Housing Complex. Chairman Turner asked if the units are going to be condos or rentals? They're going to be Studios 1, 2, 3. Other Commissioners, including Vice Chairman Coan, and Commissioner Richard Balestracci asked questions regarding parking within the site, and bus pickup for residents? Chief DelGrosso asked if there was going to be internal space for school buses? Yes, and asked if the planners had a discussion with the Pawcatuck Fire Chief? Yes, there were no comments or concerns.

**5. Old Business**

**a. Revised Plans 215 Liberty Street Beechway Estates**

Sergio Cherenzia

Sergio Cherenzia addressed the Police Commission on the revisions, and modifications to the site plans for 215 Liberty St. The layout of the property has not changed, but the total number of units is down to 102. There were changes down



at the southern end of the property adding open green space. Commissioners still asked for clarification regarding sidewalks, and plans for where to put snow? Chief Delgrosso also had concerns on snow, and would like to see clarification from the fire department on getting to the back of the buildings.

**b. Isham Street Proposal**

Rod Desmaris 2 Bay St Mystic gave a presentation to the Police Commission in regard to making Isham St one way. The concern of residents of this area is to enhance safety due to the Downtown Traffic becoming heavier. When cars are parked along Isham Street, the road turns into a one way making it difficult for cars to travel through. The group spoke with the Fire Chief about making Bay St one way but can't. Chairman Turner asked if traffic is backed up on Isham would GPS bring down oak? A lot of cut through traffic is from locals. Commissioner Balestracci noted that traffic would move over to Oak St if Isham St is made a one way.

As Part of Rod's presentation, residents from Bay St, and Isham St spoke in favor of the one way going into place on Isham St to increase safety for residents, and tourists. A resident of Bay St noted that a woman ran into their planting strip, and has been brushed by cars going by.

Chief DelGrosso noted that all residents of Isham, Oak, and Greenmanville Ave will be sent a notice of this one way proposal as well as the CT DOT for input, and will be able to speak at next month's meeting

**6. Traffic**

**a. E-Mail Re: Roundabout Concept for Route 1 and N.Main St**

Ben Philabrick addressed the Police Commission on adding a roundabout concept for Route 1 and N Main St. The main point of adding the roundabout is safety. It slows your speed, keeps working when the power is out, and flows traffic more efficiently. Chief DelGrosso would like to open up the conversation to next meeting.

**7. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, November 9, 2023 Regular Meeting**  
**\*VOTE NEEDED\***

Vice Chairman Patricia Coan made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 9, 2023 Regular meeting as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Richard Balestracci. No discussion, all in favor motion approved.

**8. Report of the Chief of Police**

**a. Budget Report**

Chief DelGrosso indicated that Training Budget is on track. Uniforms went up, and down 3 officers due to travel. Chief Delgrosso noted that security checks at schools have been increased.

**b. Monthly Report**

**c. Special Events Schedule**

Events in the town are getting really big. Officers are being ordered in.

Chief DelGrosso commented that the housing is great, but not having enough officers can be difficult. They're having to stack calls meaning that there isn't an officer available to respond to the call.

Lastly Chief DelGrosso discussed the requests to the Board of Finance to add 2 dispatchers but only received 1

**9. Consent Agenda**

**a. Letters Re: Liberty Street Fire:**

Officers assisted with Clearing the building, and getting the hoses out for the Fire Department

**10. Adjourn**

At 6:48PM Vice Chairman Coan made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Richard Balestracci. all in favor, motion approved. All in Favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Lisa Tepper Bates*

Lisa Tepper Bates  
Secretary