

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, October 14, 2021

5:00 pm. at the Stonington Police Headquarters

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Robert O'Shaughnessy & Vice Chairman Bob Tabor
Commissioner Bob Elmer
Chief Darren Stewart & Captain Todd Olson

Absent : Commissioners Bill Turner & Lisa Tepper Bates

1. Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman O'Shaughnessy called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy voiced their congratulations to Nick Long who received the recognition of Policeman of the Year from the Elks.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that the Blessing of the Vehicles will be held October 24, 2021, at Christ Church.

2. Thank you to Commissioner Tabor for 5 years of Service

At this time, Chairman O'Shaughnessy tabled item #2 of the agenda, adding to later in the meeting.

3. Remarks of Public

David Shales of Montauk Ave. mentioned his concern with speeding on this road. There is no place for pedestrians and cyclists, and he believes the double yellow lines and rumble strips prevent drivers from crossing over into other lane to make room. Chairman O'Shaughnessy voiced his support of the rumble strips adding that signage is not always effective long term. Vice Chairman Tabor mentioned that he drives Montauk Ave. regularly and does not see a problem. Commissioner Elmer agreed with Chairman O'Shaughnessy.

Chief Stewart mentioned that the State installed the rumble strips, and this is the first complaint received.

4. New Business

a. 2022 Regular Meeting Schedule *VOTE NEEDED*

Vice Chair Tabor made a motion to approve the 2022 Regular Meeting Schedule to remain second Thursday of month at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Crop Hair Salon *POSSIBLE ACTION*

Commissioners discussed this item at last meeting, Parking tickets issued to clients of this business. Owners of the salon kept these tickets without paying, asking Police Department to void. Captain Olson stated that he has voided tickets in the past and suggested that clients park elsewhere. Commissioners agreed.

c. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Moogie, LLC 24 East Main St., Mystic *COMMENTS NEEDED*

Chief Stewart explained that Grass & Bone is applying for a full-service liquor permit. There is no change to hours or service.

d. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Garbarino & Garbarino V-4 Enterprises, LLC 32 Williams Avenue, Mystic *COMMENTS NEEDED*

Chief Stewart explained that Nana's Pizzeria and Bakery is looking to add beer and wine sales for on-premises consumption. Discussion ensued with regard as to how it would be monitored, particularly keeping drinking on site.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to pass along both applications to Planning & Zoning with the stipulation that rules with clear signage is provided to patrons. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

e. E-mail Re: Parking issue/Request for Handicap Parking, McGrath Court *POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM*

Philip Zwick, owner of 214 North Water Street was present to discuss issues with neighbors regarding the parking of his partners car on McGrath Court. He stated his property abuts McGrath Court and it is necessary to park there for easier access to the house. They are requesting a Handicap parking space. Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to table this item to give them more time to review. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

f. Mystic Chamber & Mystic Fire Department Halloween Parade *VOTE NEEDED*

Captain Olson reported that he has suggested a route change and time change to this event for safety reasons. Changes have been made and parade is scheduled for October

31st at 1:00 P.M. He supports the resurrection of this event. Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to approve the Halloween Parade. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

5. Traffic

a. E-Mail Re: Old Mystic Estates *FYI*

Information provided of roadway status regarding Nautilus Way now an open thru roadway with two connections to Pequot Trail. Chief Stewart reported they will keep an eye on this as it progresses.

b. Street Light Requests – Findlay Way & Stanton Lane *FYI*

Chief Stewart stated that he believes there is no issue with this request.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Tabor to add agenda item tabled at last meeting, Ragnar Relay in Stonington. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved. Call made to Amber Sadlier, Senior Race Director. Discussion ensued regarding placement of police officers along route.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Tabor to approve the Ragnar Relay in Stonington with the stipulation that two hired police officers are placed at areas deemed necessary by Chief. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

6. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, September 16, 2021, Special Meeting

VOTE NEEDED

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to approve the minutes for the Thursday, September 16, 2021 special meeting as submitted. Vice Chairman Tabor seconded the motion. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

8. Report of the Chief of Police

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission of his intent to retire next year.

a. Budget Report

Chief Stewart reported that they are 27.1% through the fiscal year-to-date budget, which is typical. Overtime is heavy.

b. Monthly Report

Chief Stewart mentioned an omission of the 211 Human Services referrals, adding that this has been an asset to services offered to residents.

c. Alarm Report

d. Special Events Schedule

Add Ragnar Race of Stonington

e. Police Support Supervisor position

Position description provided

f. A/C Update

Chief Stewart reported that the five-year-old unit had a manufacturing defect. \$23,000 was quote provided but he kept on it and Trane is standing by their product.

g. Per Commission Request – Accomplishment Overview Plus Discussion on Future Staffing of Police Department

At this time, Chairman O'Shaughnessy thanked Vice Chairman Bob Tabor for his 5 years of service. Several past members of the Commission were present to honor him and wish him well in his retirement.

10. Consent Agenda

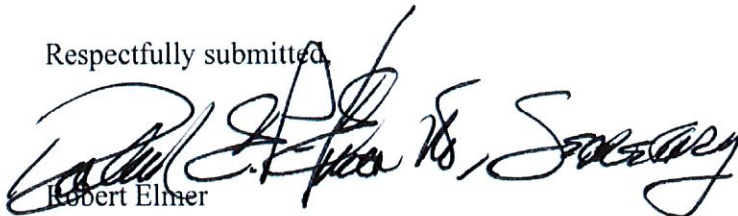
- a. Letter Re: Thank You – Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation
- b. Letter Re: Appointment of Mystic Fire Department Chief
- c. Letter Re: POSTC Training Officer Miller
- d. Letter Re: Request for Traffic Light at Coogan Blvd and Clara Drive
- e. Memo Re: Michael Gomes Recognition for Service at 9/11 NYC Site
- f. Memos Re: Planning & Zoning Applications
- g. Mem Re: Thank You – Sergeant Ritacco & Officer Hewes
- h. Thank You emails: Miss America parade
- i. E-Mail Re: Good Job – Officer Browning
- j. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Emery
- k. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Cullen & Officer Murray
- l. Letter Re: Highway Use permit, Veterans Day Parade

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Tabor. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

12. Adjourn

At 6:21 p.m., Commissioner Elmer made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Tabor. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Elmer
Secretary