

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, March 9th, 2023 at 5:00p.m.
STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS
173 SOUTH BROAD STREET
PAWCATUCK, CT 06379**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Robert O'Shaughnessy, Vice Chairman Turner
Commissioner Lisa Tepper Bates, Commissioner Richard Balestracci
Chief Jay DelGrosso, Deputy Chief Todd Olson, Captain Bryan Schneider

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order at 5:00pm.

2. Remarks of the Public

Chairman O'Shaughnessy shared that Sergeant Ritacco is recovering well and appreciates the many cards from the community wishing him a speedy recovery.

3. New Business

- a. Planning and Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Fiore Properties, LLC ***COMMENTS
NEEDED***

Ginger Costa came to the commission as part of the process to obtain a beer license. The commission had no comments or concerns with the application.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner to pass along to Planning and Zoning Committee with no issues regarding traffic, parking or safety. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

- b. Planning and Zoning Residential Re-Subdivision & Coastal Area Management Review
Application: Old Stoneridge, LLC ***COMMENTS NEEDED***

Normand Thibeault presented the plans for a two-lot subdivision. It would consist of two lots on 33 acres. The commission had no comments or concerns with the application.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner to pass along to Planning and Zoning Committee with no issues regarding traffic, parking or safety. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

- c. Mystic Chamber of Commerce-Bruce Flax ***DISCUSSION ONLY-NO VOTE REQUESTED AT THIS
TIME***

Bruce Flax was going to speak to the commission about an October 14th event but was not ready at the time of the meeting. The discussion will take place at a later date.

- d. Event: Our Lady of Fatima Processions ***VOTE NEEDED***
f. Event: Feast of the Assumption Processions ***VOTE NEEDED***

The commission discussed the two Saint Michael events in tandem. Both processions have taken place in the past. There was some time the processions were paused because of COVID but are ready to resume again. The commission had no questions or concerns.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner to accept the Our Lady of Fatima Processions and Feast of the Assumption Processions as submitted following the requirements of the town's insurance and the Stonington Police Department safety requirements. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

4. Correspondence

None

5. Old business

None

6. Traffic

a. Letter Re: Removal of Handicap Parking Spot- Lester Avenue, Pawcatuck ***VOTE NEEDED***
Karen Bryant wrote a letter to the commission requesting the handicap sign in front of her house be removed as she is moving out of state. Chief DelGrosso will make arrangements to have the sign removed.

b. Letter Re: Request for "Sharp Curve" Sign- Greenhaven Road, Pawcatuck ***VOTE NEEDED***
Cliff Schrage came before the commission to speak on the history of crashes on Greenhaven Road due to the sharp corner. He expressed a need for better or clearer signage alerting drivers of the upcoming curve. Deputy Chief Olson shared they could probably relocate the sign closer to the curve and that he would meet with Paul Thomas who does town signage. That areas signage is currently a work in progress. Cliff Schrage inquired about the chances of getting guardrails installed along the curve. Chairman O'Shaughnessy opened discussion about asking public works to take a look at the sign and the feasibility of guardrail. Chief DelGrosso stated he would talk to the speed enforcement officers about adding Greenhaven to list of locations to keep an eye on. Another concerned citizen spoke up and lended support to Cliff Schrage's concerns.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner to contact public works about the sign and potential guardrail at Greenhaven Road. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

c. Request for "Caution Blind Person" Signs- River Road, Pawcatuck ***VOTE NEEDED***
Deputy Chief Olson stated that the request for a "Caution Blind Person" sign is a reasonable request.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner for Deputy Chief Olson to contact public works about installing a "Caution Blind Person" sign on River Road. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

d. Request to Replace Missing "Hidden Driveway" Sign- River Road, Pawcatuck ***VOTE NEEDED***
Deputy Chief Olson shared that the "Hidden Driveway" sign on River Road could use a replacement.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Turner for Deputy Chief Olson to contact public works about installing a "Hidden Driveway" sign on River Road. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

At this time Chairman O'Shaughnessy made it known that the commission wants to go on record stating they have been in meetings with the Town of Stonington and DOT in regards to the Coogan Blvd intersection. A diagram will be submitted to DOT showing improvements that could be made to the intersection to improve traffic and safety.

7. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, February 9th, 2023 *VOTE NEEDED*

Motion made by Vice Chairman Turner to approve the minutes from the February 9th, 2023 meeting as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

8. Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report

Chief DelGrosso reported the department is doing well with the budget. The only area of concern is the overtime budget, but it is to be expected with officer vacancies and officers on light duty.

b. Monthly Report

c. Special Events Schedule

Chief DelGrosso shared that the first "C" category event is coming up. That event is the Mystic Irish Parade. The department has the necessary operational plan in place.

9. Consent Agenda

a. Highway Use Permit: Mystic Irish Parade

The Mystic Irish Parade has received the Highway Use Permit for their event.

b. Highway Use Permit: Pawcatuck River Duck Race

The Pawcatuck River Duck Race has received the Highway Use Permit for their event.

c. Fusion Event*FYI*

There is a Fusion Event taking place at the Velvet Mill.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Turner to accept the Report of the Chief and the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Chairman Turner. Seconded by Commissioner Tepper Bates. All in favor, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

 - Chairman
For

Lisa Tepper Bates
Secretary