STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, May 14, 2015
5:00 PM AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chair Mel Olsson and Vice-Chair Patrick Moukawsher
Commissioners Harry Holt, Peter Rotella and Raymond Trebisacci
Chief Darren Stewart and Captain Todd Olson

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1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Olsson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2) Remarks of Visitors
None

3) New Business
a. Sergio Franchi Concert
This is a special event that occurs every year. Due to the size of the event it goes before the Board for appoval if there were issues in years past. Retired Captain Bob O'Shaughnessey is handling the event this year. Chief Stewart recommends approval of this event.

Motion to approve the Sergio Franchi Concert on August 29, 2015 made by Commissioner Moukawsher. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

4) Old Business
a. Taste of Mystic Follow-Up *VOTE NEEDED*
Chris Reagan -Old Mistick Village present
The Taste of Mystic event was approved at the April 10, 2014 meeting pending certain requirements being met.

Reagan presented the Commission with a layout map with a 60' x 170' tent. The back half will be searing, there will be a fenced off stage area and area to enter to get wrist bands for beer and wine. There will be 500' of metal fence and orange barriers put up to prevent cars from going through. 20-25 restaurants will be participating. There will be 140 volunteers from the YMCA and Mystic Aquarium who will be at the event throughout the weekend.

There were no questions from the Commission. Chief Stewart met with Reagan and went over the number of officers to be hired, alcohol set-up and wrist bands. It will be similar to the Taste of Mystic held Downtown, only at the Mistick Village.

Fire Department requirements have been met.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the application for the Taste of Mystic at Olde Mistick Village as the insurance and other requirements have been met. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. All in favor, motion approved.

At this time, Commissioner Rotella made a motion to return to Remarks of Visitors. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor.

Pamela Dole
187 Mechanic Street, Pawcatuck
Has concerns regarding the speed limit at the intersection of Mechanic Street, West Broad Street and Route 2. Posted speed limit is 25 mph. She feels it should be 5 mph - 10 mph. She would also like to see the speed limit on Mechanic Street continue at 25 mph from Route 1 to Mary Hall Road. She would like to have a sign telling motorists what their speed is posted and offered use of her front lawn for this purpose. She is concerned about motor vehicle accidents.

Chief Stewart explained that the speed limit is set by the Connecticut Department of Transportation State Traffic Commission. They do surveys and try to set "reasonable" speed limits considered for a particular area. He will look into putting the speed sign in that area, and also extra patrols.

4) Old Business
b. E-Mail Re: Insurance Certificates – Food Truck Rally – Information Only
c. Letter Re: Wine Bar/Café – Broadway Avenue, Mystic
The State Department of Transportation has stepped in with restrictions to include one way entrance into parking lot on north side. Exit out onto Washington Street.

5) Traffic
a. E-Mail Re: Horizontal Curve Safety Project
Follow-up from last month. Chair Olsson feels the roads chosen for this project are good choices.
b. Letter Re: Crosswalks – Broadway, Mystic
Chief Stewart will contact Rick Chapman at the Department of Transportation and forward a copy of the letter to him to see what needs to be done.

6) Approval of Minutes for April 9, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*
A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve the minutes for the April 9, 2015 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella. All in favor, motion approved.

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7) Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget

"On target" – 80% of budget used. The appropriate changes that were needed have been made to the salary lines by the Finance Department, and these line items are back on track. Will go over budget in Regular Overtime line by approximately 8%, or $10,000-$15,000; however it will be offset by the Regular Officer account as the Department is currently down three officers. As the Department will be increasing by 1.5 officers, handguns will need to be purchased. The guns will be the same as what the officers currently use. There are no trade-ins. Guns will cost approximately $700-$800 each. Funds for this purchase will come from CIP money from four years ago. There is $3,800 in the account. Four guns will be purchased. Officers will also be sent to training for OSHA and Handgun Qualification.

b. Monthly Report

April was a busy month. There were ten pistol permits issued for a total of 45 for the year to date. Injury causing motor vehicle accidents have been cut in half with only two for April. The State Distracted Driving Grant resulted in a big enforcement month with 250 infraction tickets issued. Six narcotics infractions were issued. This is an increase from last year. DWI arrests have doubled from last year.

c. Pawcatuck Statistics

Increase in Motor Vehicle Stops due to Distracted Driving Grant.

d. Alarm Report

e. Special Event Schedule

f. Letter Re: Herbert Bump Retirement *VOTE NEEDED*

Herbert Bump, part-time building maintenance. Has been with the Department for a couple of years. Incredible worker, gave 100%, will be missed. Advertisement for position will be placed in the next few weeks, interviews will be before next Commission meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to accept the retirement of Herbert Bump. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

g. Letter Re: Officer Craig Burge Retirement *VOTE NEEDED*

Officer Craig Burge will be retiring from the Department after 37 years of outstanding service to the Town of Stonington.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to accept the retirement of Officer Craig Burge. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

The Commission would like to thank Officer Burge for his years of service.

h. Letter Re: Officer Craig Burge – Request to be Reserve Officer *VOTE NEEDED*

Retiring Officer Craig Burge would like to remain with the Department as a Reserve Officer. Chief Stewart recommends the Commission approve this request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve Officer Craig Burge's request to remain with the Department as a Reserve Officer after his retirement. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. All in favor, motion approved.

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i. Radio System Upgrade Proposal
Chief Stewart will be meeting next week with Harris Radio Company who completed the radio system upgrades at Waterford Police Department and in Wethersfield. Within the next couple of months, the Department will have three packages to show the direction with the radio systems.
Chair Olsson noted that it is important to get input from other Departments.

j. Rules & Regulations Chapter 24C: Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment Program *VOTE NEEDED*
Chief Stewart recommends that this policy be adopted for cases of domestic violence. Officers are specially trained. This policy is all about safety. Commissioner Rotella said that bonds are set through the court based on the assessment. He noted that in the past, bonds were set in such a way that abusers were let out, more violence occurred, and towns were sued. This policy allows a "cooling off period" for the abuser. Chief Stewart noted that this is "all about safety".
A motion was made by Commissioner Rotella to adopt the Domestic Violence Lethality Assesment Program policy. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. All in favor, motion approved.

k. Rules & Regulations Chapter 47: Medication Collection/Disposal Policy & Procedure *VOTE NEEDED*
The drug drop box is located in the lobby. It has already been utilized. Box indicated what is to be put in there – no needles. Requirement is that it is under video surveillance.
A motion was made by Commissioner Rotella to approve the Medication Collection/Disposal Policy & Procedure. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. All in favor, motion approved.

l. Letter Re: Railroad Crossings
Chief Stewart has a meeting tomorrow regarding noise and whistle blowing at existing railroad crossings.

m. Traffic Stop Data Analysis and Findings, 2013-14 – Informational only

Chief Stewart made mention of the following:

- Police Boat is in water – up and running.
- There is a new legislation regarding 911 which, if passed in the future (2017-18), will require any community with a population under 40,000 to combine with another municipality in order to maintain State funding. Chief Stewart has reached out to our Representatives to oppose this legislation.
- The Law Enforcement Memorial Dinner last week went well. On the weekend of July 22-23, 2015, families will be in Mystic at the Seaport and Aquarium. More to follow.
- Renovations at Mystic Hilton. Will be site of Connecticut Police Chief's Association Quarterly meeting in September.

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A motion to approve the Report of the Chief of Police was made by Commissioner Moukawsher. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

8) Consent Agenda

- **a. E-Mail Re: Security Presentation at Aquarium**
- **b. Letter Re: Angel Ride**
- **c. Letters & Highway Use Permit Re: Pequot Cyclists Time Trial Series**
- **d. Letter Re: Thank You – Cornerstone Baptist Academy**
- **e. Letter Re: Meet the Mystic Fire Department Event**
- **f. Letter Re: Our Lady of Fatima Processions**
- **g. Memos Re: Body Armor Bids & Bid Award**
- **h. Letters & Highway Use Permit Re: Mystic Outdoor Art Festival**
- **i. Letter Re: Thank You – Donation of K9 Bulletproof Vest**
- **j. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Armstrong**
- **k. Letter Re: Drug Drop Box**
- **l. Letter Re: Young Angel Ride**
- **m. Letters Re: Mohegan & Mashantucket Casino Public Safety**
- **n. E-Mail Re: Safety at Mystic Aquarium**
- **o. Memo Re: Job Well Done**
- **p. Article: Video Capture**
- **q. Letters Re: Westerly/Pawcatuck Memorial Day Parade**
- **r. Highway Use Permit – Mystic Memorial Day Parade**
- **s. Letter Re: Donation to MADD**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rotella to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion approved by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

9) Executive Session

At approximately 6:05 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to go into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing for the position of Police Commission Secretary and for interviews of Officer Candidates. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor.

At approximately 7:53 p.m., the Commission voted to come out of Executive Session. All in favor.

At approximately 7:54 p.m., Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to extend a conditional officer of employment as a Reserve Officer to Michael Finkelstein contingent upon successful completion of the remainder of the testing process. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

At approximately 7:55 p.m., Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to extend a conditional officer of probationary employment to Brian Cozzolino, subject to all the requirements of the Police Academy. In addition, he will be brought in as a 5th year

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Police Officer because of prior experience and a week of vacation time for his wedding will also be extended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. All in favor, motion approved.

At approximately 7:59 p.m., Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to hire Natalie Mitchell as Police Commission Secretary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

10) Adjourn

At approximately 8:00 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Moukawsher. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Harry Holt, Secretary

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