

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, June 11, 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

1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Olsson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

2) Remarks of Visitors

First Selectman George Crouse

Thank you and congratulations to Chief Stewart, Captain Olson and all involved with the hard work on the narcotics arrests in Pawcatuck. Stonington is doing something great and will work with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Police Commissioners and the Board of Finance to do more.

3) Remarks of Chairman Olsson

Chairman Olsson congratulated First Selectman Crouse on bringing the community together and also congratulated Chief Stewart and Captain Olson for the actions in Pawcatuck – it was a team effort by the entire Department.

4) New Business

a. CSO Introductions

Two new Community Service Officers (CSO) were hired for this season - Brian Frosti and Jay Alvaran. Lindsey Michaels, who has been with the Department for several years and does an amazing job, will be training them. This will be her last year with the Department.

b. St. Michael School 5K Road Race & Family Fun Run/Walk *VOTE NEEDED*

Linda Cunningham present from St. Michael School.

This will be the 6th year for this event. Same course with one change being a water station located at the half-mile turn around point. Stonington Crossfit, located at 100 Mechanic Street, has offered their driveway for this water station.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to approve the 6th Annual St. Michael School 5K Road Race & Fun Run/Walk scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2015 provided the insurance and other requirements are met. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. Commissioner Rotella abstained. All others in favor. Motion approved.

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CYNTHIA LADWIG
TOWN CLERK

c. Letter Re: River Glow *VOTE NEEDED*

This is an event that has been occurring for ten years with no issues. Chief Stewart recommends approval.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to hold River Glow on August 8, 2015 provided all requirements have been met. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor. Motion approved.

d. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Horses Healing Humans *VOTE NEEDED*

Lee Paradis, Jessica Morrissey & Nick Kepple present.

Horses Healing Humans is an equine assisted therapy program located at 340 New London Turnpike in Stonington. The special use permit proposes to allow the program to utilize the large residence on the property which also has a stable. The finished basement of the house will afford space to allow a much safer environment for additional therapies and administrative space. The changes will not affect traffic and are not a public safety issue. There are clear site lines left and right on the straightaway and there is adequate parking. Chief Stewart sees no issues from a traffic point of view. The sign for the business will be re-sited so it can be more easily seen. They will have a MD on the Board and a licensed mental health specialist on site when required.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to pass along to Planning & Zoning with the comment "no negative impact on public safety or traffic". Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. Commissioner Moukawsher abstained. All others in favor. Motion approved.

e. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application: Olde Mistick Village Cinemas *VOTE NEEDED*

Bill Dougherty, Owner – Olde Mistick Village Cinemas
Harold Blank, Business Partner

The objective of this project is to take the three existing auditoriums and add a fourth. The concession area will also be expanded to include food prepared through a convection oven, and also include beer & wine. They have met with the State Liquor Commission in Hartford with positive results. Security cameras will be installed at concession area. There will be TIPS trained servers of the proper age at the concession stand. Alcohol will not be served in the theater, patrons must come out to lobby to be served from single serve area. Beers will be limited to two per person. If violations are found, the entire business will be shut down. Chief Stewart added that alcohol cannot leave building and will be subject to regulation of the State Liquor Commission. There are no traffic or public safety issues.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to pass onto Planning and Zoning with comments that there are no traffic or safety issues of concern provided applicant is in compliance with all local ordinances. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

5) Old Business

None

Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to add letter from Department of Transportation regarding upgrade of railroad pavement markings and signing to the agenda.

On the recommendation of Chief Stewart, Commissioner Holt made a motion to approve the proposed upgrade to existing railroad related pavement markings and signing as submitted on

June 9, 2015 from the Department of Transportation. Seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

6) Traffic

a. E-Mail Re: Washington Street Crosswalk

Marilyn Cintron

There was a crosswalk years ago on the North side of Washington Street to Route 1 that was eliminated during the streetscape project. Chief Stewart met with Rick Chapman of the Department of Transportation and Barbara McKrell, Stonington Director of Public Works. If crosswalk is put back in, the crosswalk in front of CVS will be removed. Chief Stewart will press for both. Ms. Cintron believes the crosswalk should be put back in as it is an intersection and people will not go to the one in front of CVS. She feels this is a safety issue, and also that the CVS crosswalk should not be removed. Nine children live on Denison Street, the demand is there now and there is an anticipated increase in pedestrian traffic once wine bar opens.

No action is being taken at this time. Kevin Ng, Engineer for the State D.O.T. will take measurements and look at the area. The Commission would like to see both crosswalks in place.

b. E-Mail Re: Center Rumble Strip Project

Roads selected for this project by the Department of Transportation are Route 234, Montauk Avenue, and North Main Street. Chief will send off letter to say OK.

c. E-Mail Re: Walkers Dock & Freemans Island Evaluations

FYI

d. Letter Re: Intersection of Clark Street & Mechanic Street, Pawcatuck

Tabled to July meeting

6) Approval of Minutes for May 14, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to approve the minutes for the May 14, 2015 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

7) Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget

Chief and Captain will continue to monitor the budget. Regular overtime account will be close to \$20,000 over budget; however, the personnel grouping is healthy and the salary of regular officers will offset as funds can be moved around within the grouping. The training overtime line may be over as well due to mandatory training. The advertising line will be over budget. Purchases to be made are a cage system from the K-9 account and five new handguns will be purchased out of the CIP budget. The Department is under budget overall.

b. Monthly Report

DWI arrests have doubled from last year.

c. Pawcatuck Statistics

d. Alarm Report

e. Special Event Schedule

f. POST Policy: "Mandatory Uniform Policy Concerning Complaints That Allege Misconduct By Law Enforcement Agency Personnel"

Uniform policy on requirements to make a complaint against a police officer. This will be back on the agenda as it will become part of the Rules & Regulations.

Commissioner Holt left meeting at 6:30 p.m.

g. Agreement: PoliceApp.com

This will affect how police officers are hired. Everything for the hiring process will be done electronically through this site. Rather than paying \$50 fee to the L.E.C., applicant pays \$85 fee to policeapp.com. FYI

h. Rules & Regulations Chapter 46: Automated License Plate Recognition (LPR) System *VOTE NEEDED*

Lt. Schneider spoke about the license plate reader. Information gathered is stored and re-written every 90 days. Chief Stewart noted that there is currently no video in cruisers or body cameras on officers.

Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to approve the amendment to Rules & Regulations Chapter 46 regarding the License Plate Recognition system as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor, motion approved.

i. Downtown Pawcatuck Arrests

Chief Stewart added to the earlier remarks by First Selectman Crouse and Chairman Olsson saying all involved did a great job. Westerly Police Department assisted. Community concerns were addressed.

j. Part-Time Dispatching Hires *POSSIBLE VOTE NEEDED*

Two part-time dispatcher positions are in approved budget. There is already one candidate on stand-by that will be invited back to next meeting. No vote taken.

k. Recap of Mystic Half Marathon

Everything went smoothly with the Mystic Half Marathon. Coogan Boulevard and Jerry Brown Road were shut down. Every cruiser was used for the event with 17 officers hired. No major traffic issues.

l. New Car Purchasing Process

Chief Stewart had a quick meeting with Finance last week. There is \$50,000 currently in the account. Chief Stewart will need to get a bid waiver from the Board of Finance next month to go off the State bid list which is the cheapest.

Chief Stewart made mention of the following:

Met with Motorola and Harris Radio. He recommended to both companies to get ready to give full presentation to Commission — who they are, positive and negative aspects to their systems, what they can do for the Department and the cost. One company a month can be scheduled to present. Chairman Olsson said to allot one half hour max per company, and to also get a price on an outside consultant. He suggested looking at other departments in the State, and noted that we need to find what works for us, not the radio company.

8) Consent Agenda

- a. Letter Re: Thank You – Groton Sportsmen's Club**
- b. Highway Use Permit: Memorial Day Parade**
- c. E-Mail Re: Thank You – Easter Seals Walk With Me Event**
- d. Memo Re: Thank You – Officer Palmer & K-9 Odin**
- e. Letter Re: Taste of Mystic**
- f. Letter Re: Sergio Franchi Concert**

- g. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Capalbo**
- h. Highway Use Permit: Mystic Half Marathon**
- i. Letter Re: Thank You – Crosswalk Request**
- j. Letter Re: Thank You – Monsanto Company**
- k. Letter Re: Mystic Seaport Boat Parade**
- l. Letter Re: Seat Belt Safety**
- m. Letter Re: Thank You – Monsanto March**
- n. Letter Re: Thread Mill Fire**
- o. Letter Re: Thank You – Westerly Police Chief St. Clair**

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

9) Adjourn

At approximately 7:00 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Trebisacci. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Harry Holt, Secretary

DRAFT