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STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, July 9, 2015
5:00 P.M. AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chair Mel Olsson and Vice-Chair Patrick Moukawsher
Commissioners Peter Rotella and Raymond Trebisacci
Chief Darren Stewart, Lieutenant Mike Peckham and Lieutenant Bryan Schneider
Absent: Captain Todd Olson and Commissioner Harry Holt

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1) Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Olsson called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M.

2) Remarks of Visitors
None

3) Remarks of Chairman Olsson
Chairman Olsson, on behalf of the Police Commission, commended the Stonington Police Department on recent events in town including how the Department handled the bank robbery and drug sting.

4) New Business
a) Letter Re: Maria Assunta Candlelight Vigil Procession *VOTE NEEDED*
A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to approve the Maria Assunta Candlelight Vigil Procession on August 15, 2015, provided all requirements of the Chief are met, and that all necessary paperwork and insurance is in place. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor, motion approved.

5) Old Business
b) Letter Re: Intersection of Clark Street & Mechanic Street
Glenn and Kathy Davis
5 Spruce Ct. Pawcatuck
Have concerns regarding the line of sight issues when pulling out of Clark St. onto Mechanic St. near the Thread Mill. Construction at the Thread Mill has also made the issue worse because construction vehicles are parked along River Rd. causing the line of sight to be even more obstructed. Mrs. Davis suggested installing a mirror in order to improve the line of sight. Chief Stewart advised that mirrors can only be placed on private property. He suggested looking into creating a three-way stop. There was some discussion on performing traffic surveys and getting accident statistics for the area. Barbara McKrell, Stonington Director of Public Works, who was also attending this meeting for another matter, informed the Commission that there are plans in the works to address this intersection as part of the work being done at the Thread Mill.

A motion was made by Chair Olsson to put a three-way stop at the Clark St, Mechanic St and River Rd intersection on next month's agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

Chair Olsson thanked Mr. and Mrs. Davis for attending the meeting and discussing their concerns with the Commission.

c) POST Policy: "Mandatory Uniform Policy Concerning Complaints that Allege Misconduct by Law Enforcement Agency Personnel"
A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to approve the Adoption of a Mandatory Uniform Policy Concerning Complaints that Allege Misconduct by Law Enforcement Agency Personnel. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

6) Traffic

a) Memo Re: Request for "No Parking" at 1 Morgan Street *VOTE NEEDED*
Barbara McKrell, Stonington Director of Public Works – Present
The Department of Public Works is looking into extending the sidewalks into the roadway in order to preserve three existing trees along the sidewalk area. Ms. McKrell consulted an arborist, who said that the trees, if left as they are, would probably survive.

At street level, with the new paving, watering the trees compromises the integrity of the new pavement. Commissioner Trebisacci questioned if the sidewalk would extend all the way from tree three to Route 1. He suggested that possibly tapering the curb from Route 1 to tree three because he was concerned with narrowing the street at the corner of Morgan and Route 1. Vice Chair Moukawsher asked Ms. McKrell if a curb could be installed around each tree. Ms. McKrell said that could be an option. Vice Chair Moukawsher was interested in doing the minimal amount of work but still save the trees. If needed, adjustments could be made in the future.

Commissioner Trebisacci asked if the trees are left in place, would the accessibility of the sidewalk be compromised. Ms. McKrell said that it would not; all necessary measures would be taken to keep the sidewalks accessible.

Chief Stewart suggested a "No Parking from Here to Corner" sign in front of tree three, a "Speed Limit" sign in front of tree two, and a "Snow Ordinance" sign in front of tree one. The signs could also have reflectors and the curbs that box in the trees could be painted in order to make them as visible as possible.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Moukawsher to decline the request for "No Parking" at 1 Morgan Street but the Commission suggests the Department of Public Works boxes in the trees. Parking would be allowed between tree three, two and one but not in between tree three and Route 1. Additionally, the Commission includes the request for a "No Parking" sign in front of tree three, a "Speed Limit" sign in front of tree two, and a "Snow Ordinance" sign in front of tree one. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to approve the Commissions suggestion as stated above. Commissioner Trebisacci seconded, all in favor, motion approved.

b) Signed Letter Re: Centerline Rumble Strips
c) Signed Letter Re: Installation of Pavement Markings/Signing at Crossings
d) Letters Re: Liberty Crossing Two Year Extension

7) Approval of Minutes for June 11, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve the minutes for the June 11, 2015 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

8) Report of the Chief of Police

a) Budget Report
The Chief highlighted some items in the budget, for example, the department bought hand guns, prepaid gas for the boat, purchased uniforms for the new recruits, a new cage for the canine vehicle, and spent money on narcotics. The Department is under budget overall.

b) Monthly Report
The Chief informed the Commission that the number of motor vehicle accidents is up. That there were 681 summonses issued, up from 360 last year. The Department had 26 narcotics infractions issued. Eight of them were from the sting. The drug drop off box in the lobby was overflowing. The Department weighed fifty pounds of drugs were disposed of from the drop box. The recruits are doing well at the academy. The Department is in the process of hiring a new custodian. There have been five motor vehicle verses bicycle accidents near the train station at Broadway Ave., Broadway Ave. Ext. and Roosevelt Ave. Chief Stewart is in discussion with the State DOT. There will be more to follow.
c) Pawcatuck Statistics
d) Alarm Report
There is one past due alarm (see item f below).
e) Special Events Schedule
f) Past Due Alarm Fine *FYI*
The Chief made the Commission aware of a past due alarm. If the past due is not addressed, next month the Chief will formally bring the issue to the Commission to decide on the issue.

The Chief also discussed the following:

The Chief informed the Commission that the August agenda will include a formal request from the Denison Nature Center about a crosswalk at the Denison Nature Center.

The Chief reported to the Commission that there is a request to post "Drive Like Your Kids Live Here" signs on Mary Hall Rd. Commissioner Rotella made a motion to add this request to this agenda. Seconded by Vice-Chair Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to post "Drive Like Your Kids Live Here" signs on Mary Hall Rd. Seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to approve the Chief's Report. Seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

9) Consent Agenda
a) Letter Re: River Glow
b) Letter Re: St. Michael School 6th Annual Road Race & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk
c) Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Cullen
d) Letter Re: Mystic River Ambulance
e) Memo Re: New Events – Thank You
f) Letters & Highway Use Permit: Maria Assunta Procession
g) Letter Re: Columbus Day Parade
h) Memo Re: Great Job – Officer Burge
i) Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Hersh
j) Letter Re: Thank You – Safe Futures
k) E-Mail Re: Mystic River Triathlon
l) E-Mail Re: Affirmation of Town Anti-Discrimination Policy
m) Letter Re: Thank You – YMCA
n) Thank You – Stonington High School Senior Class
o) Donations to Animal Control
A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

10) Executive Session
Approximately 5:53 Pm the Commission went into executive session. A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to begin the Executive Session. Vice-Chair Moukawsher seconded, all in favor, motion approved.

At approximately 6:02 PM Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to exit out of executive session, motion was seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all were in favor.

a) Interview of Part-Time Dispatcher Applicant
At approximately 6:03 PM, Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to offer Dispatcher candidate Brian Cook a conditional offer of probationary employment as a part-time dispatcher contingent on passing of continued background checks, physical and obtaining of State certifications. Commissioner Trebisacci seconded the motion, all in favor.

11) Presentation – Marcus Communications Re: Radio System
At this time representatives of Marcus Communications made a presentation to the Commission on police radio coverage in the Town of Stonington.

12) Adjourn
At approximately 7:20 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Moukawsher, seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor.