DRAFT

STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 8, 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 5:00PM.

2) Remarks of Visitors

Hartford Marathon Group Proposed ½ Marathon

Steve White, Mystic Seaport President

In attendance to support Hartford Marathon Group's proposed May 31, 2015 ½ marathon. Mr. White stated that the Seaport had concerns regarding the original proposed date of June 28th, and appreciates the Marathon Group taking their concern into account; he believes the concept is great for the area, and would like to work with the crew to make this event successful.

Mr. White also stated that he would like to take this opportunity to make the Commission aware that he supports the proposed Coogan Farm property changes.

3) Correspondence

4) Old Business

a. Coogan Farm – Planning & Zoning Application
Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center Special Use Permit
Chad Frost, Landscape Architect, Kent & Frost Landscape Architecture

Mr. Frost presented plan to Commission; stated that after the last meeting he reviewed the impact of the Commission's motion and came up with a few concerns:

- Restriction of northern driveway as entrance only will impact the Giving Garden, which provides approximately 3-6 tons of food to United Way, and utilizes a box truck that can only exit from that driveway
- One lane connector intended as "glorified pedestrian walkway"; do not have enough room to make it two lanes wide due to existing structures
- If only exit is from the south driveway there is a safety concern, as it forces all vehicles into the same area as the bus drop off zone, as well as where most visitors are walking after parking in the main lot

Still awaiting State DOT comment as well, however hoping to get Commission input tonight

4) Old Business (cont'd)

a. Coogan Farm – Planning & Zoning Application (cont'd)
Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center Special Use Permit (cont'd)

Chair Olsson stated that he does not believe it is appropriate for the Commission to comment prior to receiving State input.

Mr. Frost stated that due to timing, he is concerned as they are under 35 day limit & need to respond to Planning & Zoning by February 3rd.

Vice-Chair Moukawsher explained that if the Commission provides comment now, before Mr. Frost determines what works best for him, he may be committing to something that he later determines is not feasible.

Commissioner Trebisacci asked if Mr. Frost can request that Planning & Zoning grant an extension to the 35 day requirement.

Commissioner Holt stated that even if the Commission makes a decision tonight, the State can overrule that decision. Commissioner Holt suggested tabling Commission input until State comment is received, and to have a special meeting at that point in order to assist Mr. Frost with meeting deadlines.

- A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to table Commission input until the next regular meeting, or until such time as the Commission decides a special meeting is in order. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart requested that Mr. Frost send list of date requirements.

5) Traffic

a. Hartford Marathon Group – Request for ½ Marathon
Barry J. Saluk, Mystic Rotary Club
Beth Shluger – CEO, Executive Director of Hartford Marathon Foundation
In attendance to answer any questions regarding proposed ½ marathon.
Ms. Shluger stated that Hartford Marathon Foundation has established a strong partnership with Mystic Rotary. With Rotary's help, all businesses on Coogan Boulevard have been contacted & surveyed about interest in the proposed ½ marathon. Hartford Marathon Foundation is 501c3, made up of race management professionals that stage high quality races; after safety, their priority is to produce an event that brings economic impact and tremendous pride to the community, and it is important to the Foundation that Mystic receives the benefits from race visitors & that their runners get to experience the beauty of the area.

Ms. Shluger introduced Josh Miller, Hartford Marathon Foundation Technical Director and Matt Anderson, Hartford Marathon Foundation Operations Manager.

5) Traffic (cont'd)

a. Hartford Marathon Group – Request for ½ Marathon (cont'd)

Commissioner Holt stated he is concerned about possible bottleneck issue at leg 7; runners will be turning around on one way street.

Mr. Miller confirmed that seven miles into the race there will be no bottleneck issues.

Vice-Chair Moukawsher & Commissioner Holt asked about parking; Mr. Anderson stated they have about 1700 spots; Ms. Shluger stated that most runners will come at least two to a car, and are directed via signage and volunteers regarding where to park; parking directions are provided to all pre-registered runners.

Commissioner Holt asked about the Mystic Drawbridge; Ms. Shluger stated that runners will be across the drawbridge before the first opening at 7:40am, with race starting at 7am, runners will be over the bridge & turning onto Pearl Street at 7:28am.

Chief Stewart stated his biggest concern is when runners are coming back from Groton onto Route 27; this will require 1 lane closure & approximately 5-6 officers.

Commissioner Rotella asked for additional confirmation that all runners will cover the two miles in order to make it over the bridge before its first opening at 7:40am. Ms. Shluger stated that runners are not permitted to participate in the race if they cannot stay under a 15 minute per mile pace.

- A motion was made by Commissioner Holt to approve the Mystic ½ marathon on Sunday, May 31, 2015 subject to approval by Chief Stewart, CT DOT, and provided all necessary paperwork and insurance is in place. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart noted that next year this race cannot occur on the last Sunday in May, as that is Memorial Day weekend; Ms. Shluger stated that in following years they are hoping to schedule the race on the first Sunday in May.

b. E-Mail Re: Parking on Church Street, Mystic
No action taken

6) Presentation: Drug Drop Box – Leanne Theodore, Human Services
Tabled until next month

7) Approval of Minutes for the December 11, 2014 Regular Meeting
A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2014 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

8) Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report
b. Monthly Report
c. Yearly Report
d. Pawcatuck Statistics
e. Alarm Report
f. Special Event Schedule
g. New Position Request Form
h. Email Re: Mystic Irish Parade – will present next month
i. "Shine the Light on Heroin" Event
Planned for Saturday, January 17th at 8pm; sponsored by Town of Stonington Prevention Council; Chief Stewart recommended approval.
   - Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the Shine the Light on Heroin event scheduled for Saturday January 17th at 8pm, provided requirements set forth by Chief Stewart are met, and that all necessary paperwork & insurance is in place. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.
     Commissioner Trebisacci commended the administration for being proactive on this issue, and stated that unfortunately the emergent nature of bringing this about is discomforting, however it is part of the reason he joined this board; he was concerned about the dialog between Westerly and Stonington, but this is proof that the system works.
j. Donation of K-9 Vest From Citizen
   - A motion was made by Commissioner Holt to approve the donation of a K-9 vest from a citizen. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor, motion approved.
k. Chapter 3 Use of Force Update Per Academy Mandate
   - A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to approve policy as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.
l. Fleet Update
m. Hiring Update – Captain Olson
n. The Department, in partnership with Stonington Human Services, sponsored the 11th Annual Children's Holiday Party on December 12th.
o. Stuff-A-Cruiser huge success, toys donated to Stonington Human Services
p. Chief Stewart re-elected as President of Law Enforcement Council of Eastern Connecticut
q. New public act regarding liquor permits; law now allows Police Chief input on liquor permit renewal applications, providing the Chief enacts an ordinance in support of this public act; Chief will provide information to Commission for review.

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

9) Consent Agenda

a. 1033 Surplus Equipment Program
b. Letter Re: Accident Reporting Certification
c. Letter Re: Pedestrian Safety Sign Permit Renewal
d. DOT Crosswalk Permits – Pedestrian Safety Signs
e. Letter Re: Thank You to Evans Mobil
f. Memo Re: Good Job – Sgt. Beebe, Officers Capalbo, Emery & K. Murray
g. Letters Re: Duck Race
h. Letter Re: Lion's Club Road Race
i. Letters Re: Donations to Animal Control
j. Letter Re: Thank You – Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center "Stuff A Cruiser"
k. Letter Re: Thank You – Sea Research Foundation
l. Highway Use Permit – Pawcatuck River Duck Race
m. Connecticut Light & Power Annual Usage Summary
n. Letter Re: Donation to Animal Control

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Moukawsher to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

10) Adjourn

At 6:01PM Commissioner Holt made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Holt, Secretary