STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, November 12, 2015
5:00 p.m. AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS

MEETING MINUTES

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

1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Patrick Moukawsher

2) Remarks of Visitors
None

3) New Business
a. Election of Police Commission Officers
Commissioner Trebisacci made the following nominations:

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
STONINGTON, CT.
15 NOV 19 PM 1:52
CYNTHIA LADWIG
TOWN CLERK

Patrick Moukawsher – Chairman
Harry Holt – Vice-Chairman
Peter Rotella – Secretary/Treasurer

Commissioner Rotella seconded the nominations. All in favor.

b. Comments from Chairman
Chairman Moukawsher thanked the Commission for their support and confidence in him.

c. 2016 Regular Meeting Schedule *VOTE NEEDED*
Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the proposed regular meeting schedule as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Ward Smith, POCD Implementation Committee
Ward Smith
7 Schooner Drive
Mystic, CT
Smith, a member of the POCD Implementation Committee formed in September by First Selectman George Crouse, introduced himself to the Commission. As a member of the

POCD Implementation Committee he has sat in on various meetings acting as a liason between the committee and the various boards in Town.

The POCD Implementation Committee has charged the Board of Police Commissioners with two items: bicycle safety signage and relief of traffic congestion. On the issue of traffic congestion, it was noted that the Commission cannot change the configuration of the roads. On the issue of bicycle safety, Chairman Moukawsher feels that direction and input is needed for location and appropriate signage. Commissioner Rotella noted that there is lots of traffic on Route 27, he is not sure it is an appropriate place for tourists to ride with young children. The Commission will entertain requests for signage as they come up. Chief Stewart noted that Officer Kerry Manley has met with a local bicycle company and will be presenting a Public Service Announcement on bicycle safety. This PSA will be more education related than sign related.

In general, with respect to the POCD Implementation Committee/Schedule, the Commission will support what they can support and if there are specific issues they will be entertained.

e. Letter Re: Tree – 22 Collins Road, Stonington *POSSIBLE VOTE*
Juan O'Callahan
40 Salt Acres Road
Stonington, CT

O'Callahan has purchased 22 Collins Road in Stonington. There is a very large tree at the end of the driveway which presents the need to creep out further onto Collins Road in order to determine if you can safely pull out onto the road. There is no of imminent accident. O'Callahan, per the Town Tree Warden, is requesting to have it declared a possible safety hazard in order for the tree to be removed. Chief Stewart will reach out to the Director of Public Works and the Tree Warden on this matter. The Commission does not have an issue with Chief Stewart using his discretion in this matter. No action taken by Commission.

f. Letter Re: Route 27, Mystic
Joseph Neil Spillane
147 High Street
Mystic, CT

Spillane presented his concerns regarding the intersection of Route 27 & Coogan Boulevard in Mystic. No action taken by Commission.

g. Planning & Zoning Apolication: Zoning Text & Map Amendment – Stone Ridge *VOTE/COMMENTS NEEDED*
Richard Kisner, Stone Ridge
4 Thomas Street
Mystic, CT

Dr. Michael Feltes
3 Heron Road
Stonington, CT

Application is for a text modification. Stone Ridge was opened under a special regulation of congregate living. This permits clinics. Dr. Feltes would like to open a clinic in one of the apartments at Stone Ridge to see resident patients and also patients from outside the facility. The clinic would be open mostly daytime hours initially with one physician and one nurse practitioner. He would like a modification in the requirement that restricts medical clinics to residents and occupants only.

Chairman Moukawsher felt the Commission had a limited role in the application, but had concerns about traffic issues. He would like to see them succeed, but would there be a future impact on traffic if successful. He was also concerned about bringing people in from outside of Stone Ridge. Feltes stated that his hopes are to eventually open office off-site and retain the Stone Ridge site solely for residents.

A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to advise the Planning and Zoning Commission that, after review, Commissioners did not believe there was a public safety issue but did feel that it was important that P&Z give consideration to possible traffic and or parking issues that could develop over time due to increased demand. Commissioners did also express the opinion that approval of the text amendment should limit the use to one office. All in favor. Motion approved.

h. Mystic Half Marathon
Beth Shluger, Executive Director & CEO of Hartford Marathon Foundation
27 Oswegatchie Road
Waterford, CT

Matt Anderson, Operations Manager
41 Sequin Drive
Glastonbury, CT

Josh Miller, Technical Director
51 Rolling Hills Drive
Glastonbury, CT

The proposed date for the Mystic Half Marathon is Sunday, May 15, 2016. This was a very successful event in 2015. There are no changes to the route and postcards have been sent to all residents along the route. This will be the only event at the Olde Mistick Village that day. The number of participants will be limited to 2,000 this year. Chief Stewart noted that a proposal of a large development on Jerry Brown Road will need to be looked at as there may not be an escape route through Stone Ridge and that may change the dynamics.

Commissioner Rotella made a motion to approve the date of May 15, 2016 for the Mystic Half Marathon contingent upon State approval, Groton Town Police approval and provided the insurance and other requirements have been met. The event is capped at 2,000 entrants. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

4. Old Business
a. Al Harvey Road
At the October meeting, Robin Snelgrove of Pawcatuck requested safety signs be placed of Al Harvey Road as a result of a fatal motor vehicle accident that occurred there in 2014. Chief Stewart said that Officer Kerry Manley is working on a PSA with Snelgrove that will be presented at Stonington High School. Chief Stewart will be meeting with her at some time in the future regarding appropriate signage.

b. POCD Implementation Schedule *ACTION REQUIRED*
See Item 3d. above.

5. Traffic
a. E-Mail Re: Kelley's Pace Road Races *VOTE NEEDED*
Jeff Anderson, Owner – Kelley's Pace
12 Whaler Road
Mystic, CT

Anderson presented the Commission with two races he would like approved. The first race is the Frostbite 5K scheduled for January 9, 2016. The other is the Hare Hope Race, last held in 2013, on a date yet to be determined in March, 2016. Both races will be held to benefit the local non-profit organizations MASH and the John Kelly Memorial. The races will start and end at Olde Mistick Village with an 8am start time. Anderson does not anticipate road closures. Chief Stewart advised Anderson that he would need to hire officers for traffic control for both events.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve both events subject to the discretion of administration, insurance and other requirements being met, and payment of officers hired for traffic control. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella. All in favor, motion approved.

Anderson will have the date for the Hare Hop Race determined in January.

b. E-Mail Re: Coogan Boulevard
c. Information Re: Wrong Way Accidents
d. E-Mail Re: Vertical Clearance Signing – I95 Northbound Over Taugwonk Road
e. Willow Street, Mystic
Captain Olson met with Willow Street resident. Residents have concerns with wrong way traffic. Will have presentation at December meeting.

6. Approval of Minutes for October 8, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*
One change – typographical error made on page 3, item 5b. Draft minutes incorrectly read "E-Mail Re: POC**E** Implementation Schedule", correct reading is "E-Mail Re: POC**D** Implementation Schedule".

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 8, 2015 Regular Meeting as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

7. Report of the Chief of Police
a. Budget Report
41% of the overtime account has been used and we are 35% through the Fiscal Year.
b. Monthly Report
DWI efforts continue. 14 arrests in October, 2015 compared to 8 in October, 2014. Several drug arrests.
c. Pawcatuck Statistics
d. Alarm Report
e. Special Event Schedule
f. Memo Re: Retirement of Detective John Fiore, Sr. *VOTE NEEDED*
Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to accept with thanks for 34 years of service to the Town and wished him good luck. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.
g. Letter Re: K-9 Relief Fund Donation
A cash donation to the K9 account in the amount of $100, a plaque, and a monument at the East Pavilion made by Connie and Jason Mahan.
h. Memo Re: Inspection of Property Room
i. Radio Discussion
Chief Stewart and Commissioner Trebisacci attended the IACP Chief's Conference in Chicago. While there they met with area police chiefs and with Harris Radio. Commissioner Trebisacci feels Harris Radio is putting in an exemplary regionalization effort to improve the radio system, and feels that regionalization is a good goal that the Department should pursue and strive for. A new communication system is needed. The Commissioners were polled as to whether they were in favor of regionalization with all being in favor. Chief Stewart has requested approximately $750,000 in the CIP Budget for the new radio system and has prepared a letter to Congressman Courtney

for funding. If funding is received the CIP Budget figure may lower. Chief Stewart has prepared a letter to Congressman Courtney for funding. Chief Stewart said that the next step will be to meet with Courtney and area chiefs.

j. Phone System

Captain Olson is looking into getting an affordable price and service for the new phone system.

k. Outfitting New Vehicles

L. CIP Budget Previw – For Next Meeting

Air Conditioning units

Will require Police Commission approval.

Chief Stewart noted that the Department has been very busy with the case of the boat fire at the Town Dock. Officer Greg Howard has been selected to replace retiring Officer John Fiore, Sr. in the Detective Division. Officers Friend, Cozzolino and Powell are on the road, doing a great job.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to accept the Report of the Chief of Police. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

8. Consent Agenda

a.Memo Re: Thank You – Darien Police Department

b. Letter Re: Highway Use Permit – Veterans Day Parade

c. Highway Use Permit: Veterans Day Parade

d. Highway Use Permit: YMCA Halloween Parade

e. E-Mail Re: Officer Rathgaber – Excellent Job

f. E-Mail Re: 2015 Form 10

g. Letter Re: POST Certification Approval – Officer Cozzolino

h. Letter Re: Controlled Substances for K-9 Training

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

9. Adjourn

At approximately 7:05 p.m., Commissioner Holt made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Rotella
Secretary