

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2014
5:00 PM AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Chair Mel Olsson
Commissioners Harry Holt, Patrick Moukawsher, 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

3) Correspondence

Commission gave their permission for Stonington Rotary to use pine trees on front lawn of Police Department for the Tree of Peace program.

4) Traffic

a. Letter Re: Crosswalks – Stillman Avenue Area, Pawcatuck

- Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to allow Chief Stewart to use his judgment to site two cross walks at the intersection of Stillman Avenue, Stillman Avenue Extension & East Arch Street & post signage. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Al Harvey Road – School Bus Stop Ahead Signage

- A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to allow Chief Stewart to use his judgment to site School Bus Stop Ahead signage at the northern end of Al Harvey Road. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.

5) Approval of Minutes for the October 9, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Rotella to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2014 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

6) Approval of Minutes for the October 16, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2014 special meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

7) Report of the Chief of Police

- a. Welcome Commissioner Trebisacci and Captain Olson
- b. Cruiser Accidents - Police cruiser hit from behind; Officer has minor injuries; Large buck caused significant damage to another cruiser
- c. Latest settled contracts
- d. Budget Report
- e. Monthly Report
- f. Pawcatuck Statistics
- g. Alarm Report
- h. Special Event Schedule
- i. Promotional Process – Sergeant
- j. Captain Testing Process Scoring
- k. C.I.P. Budget Discussion
- l. Downtown Camera Update – Captain Olson
\$15K in this FY budget; need to make sure whatever is installed does not need excessive maintenance and provides a clear image; site line issues & cable terminations need to be determined. Commissioner Moukawsher asked about cellular broadband, since there are no line of site issues; Captain Olson stated that would wind up costing more per month as a service, and with the massive amount of data being returned, the best way to transfer high quality video is regular internet. Feeds will be monitored in the dispatch center. Chief Stewart stated he has had many conversations with Westerly Chief St. Clair regarding access for Westerly, and once Westerly installs their cameras Stonington will have mutual access as well.
- m. Fleet Update – Lt. Schneider
Discussion regarding mileage of cruisers when they are actually traded in; Commissioner Moukawsher pointed out that there can be quite a difference in that gap period between the planned trade in mileage compared to their mileage when they actually are traded in.
- n. Radio System – discussion regarding cost & looking into digital system; Commissioner Holt will assist in reviewing options; Chief suggested discussing with Board of Finance liaison as well.
- o. C.I.P. Budget Vote
Commissioner Moukawsher would like to find out the balance of the account
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to approve the C.I.P. budget as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Rotella, all in favor, motion approved.
- p. Letter Re: Prescription Drop Box
Grant opportunity with the Department of Consumer Protection for a Prescription Drop Box in the lobby of the Police Department. Chief Stewart stated that he has discussed the issue with the Stonington Prevention Council, and the Department would be providing a service to the community, however on the other side he has also heard there can be issues with the odor that can occur. Human Services Manager Leanne Theodore, who organizes the Stonington Prevention Council, can come & present information to the Commission. Chief Stewart stated a drop box would create work for the Property Officer & requires continued monitoring; Commission will need to decide if it is something to pursue. Chair Olsson stated that old prescriptions can also be brought back to local pharmacies.
- q. Hiring Process Update – Captain Olson

7) Report of the Chief of Police (cont'd)

- r. Operational Budget Due for next Month
Need to consider staffing levels required over next several years, especially if there is an increase in housing complexes & population.
- s. Cost for Copies of Accident Reports
State changed reporting requirements; used to be 2 pages, however now can be up to 5-10 pages. State allows a charge of up to .50 cents per page, but do not have to charge that; can cap cost for a simple accident report to keep cost low.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Trebisacci to cap the cost of a simple accident report at \$2.00. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, Chair Olsson and Commissioner Holt in favor, motion approved. Commissioner Rotella opposed, does not believe a break should be given. Commissioner Holt stated that he is not opposed, and believes \$2.00 is reasonable for a simple report for a minor incident; extra cost is another reason to be looked at as "bad guys" when individuals are coming from an already stressful situation.

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

8) Consent Agenda

- a. First Responder Certificate of Operation
- b. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Stamatien
- c. Letter Re: Thank You – Pastor Tim Gengarella
- d. Letter Re: Santa's Arrival
- e. Accident Report - Cruiser
- f. Letters Re: Donations to Animal Control
- g. Letter & Highway User Permit Re: Annual Veterans Day Parade
- h. Equitable Sharing Agreement Affidavit
- i. Memo Re: Thank You – Officers Wholean & Emery
- j. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Paige
- k. Memo Re: PSAP Information
- l. Memo Re: Thank You – Captain Desmond
- m. Memo Re: Thank You – Run or Walk for Penguins Event
- n. Memo Re: Thank You – Officer Hersh
- o. Memo Re: Thank You – Sgt. Diamanti, Officer Wholean & Detective Floyd
- p. Memo Re: Thank You – Officer Stamatien
- q. Memo Re: Thank You – Captain Olson & Youth Officer Marley
- r. E-Mail Re: Stonington Form 10
- s. E-Mail Re: Good Job – Officer Wholean
- t. E-Mail Re: Good Job – Officer Ritacco
- u. E-Mail Re: Mystic Lighted Boat Parade
- v. Awards committee discussion

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

9) New Business

a. Election of Police Commission Officers

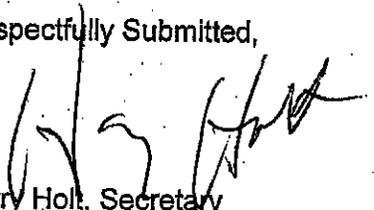
- A motion was made by Commissioner Rotella to elect Mel Olsson Police Commission Chair, Patrick Moukawsher Police Commission Vice-Chair and Harry Holt Police Commission Secretary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor, motion approved.

Commission Rotella stated that he felt duty bound based on custom and tradition to make the motion for the election of Police Commission Officers, however going forward he believes the Commission needs a working agreement so there is no controversy with respect to the elevation of a Commissioner to the Chair.

10) Adjourn

At 6:41PM Commissioner Holt made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Harry Holt, Secretary