STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 2015
5:00 p.m. AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS

MEETING MINUTES

Present: **Chairman Patrick Moukawsher & Vice Chairman Harry Holt**
Commissioners Raymond Trebisacci & Henri Gourd
Chief Darren Stewart & Captain Todd Olson
Absent: **Commissioner Peter Rotella**

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1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman Moukawsher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2) Remarks of Visitors
None

3) New Business
b. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application – Vault Coffee Roasters Coffee Shop *ACTION/COMMENTS NEEDED*
This will be a new tenant moving into an existing site in Olde Mistick Village.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to return this to Planning and Zoning with the comments that the Commission sees no impact on safety, traffic, or parking. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

c. Kevin Burns – Dispatch of Wequetequock, Stonington, & Pawcatuck Fire Departments
Kevin Burns was not present at the meeting. Item not addressed.

a. Planning & Zoning Regulation Text Amendment Application – Andrew Rodgers *ACTION/COMMENTS NEEDED*
Drew Rodgers
25 Clipper Drive
Mystic, CT

Blunt White, Chairman
Stonington Economic Development Commission

This is a text amendment application that, if approved, would allow micro-breweries and brew pubs in DB-5, LS-5 and M-1 zones.

Chairman Moukawsher stated that the Commission will need something site specific before they will take any action. Commissioner Gourd applauded Rodgers for filling in the empty spaces and contributing to the economic development in the Town.

Commission returned this to Planning & Zoning with no comment.

4. Old Business

a. Tree – Collins Road, Stonington

Chief Stewart reviewed and met with Mr. O'Callahan regarding the tree at 22 Collins Road in Stonington. Chief Stewart feels that this is not a public safety issue. It's not a high speed area, and the tree looks healthy. He is unsure if the tree warden has been to the property to look at the tree. He will send all correspondence to the Public Works Department. This is considered a closed issue unless the tree warden determines the tree will need to be removed.

5. Traffic

a. Willow Street, Mystic – Wrong Way Drivers *VOTE NEEDED*

Captain Olson has been involved with a complaint involving wrong way traffic on Willow Street. There is adequate signage indicating one way. The reason for this section of Willow Street being one way is to make it easier to direct traffic from events such as the Mystic Art Festival. There is no history of accidents in that area, and offenders are typically from out of town. Captain Olson suggested painting large white arrows on Willow Street just south and west of each intersecting road to better communicate the one way direction.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to paint arrows to clarify one way on Willow Street under the direction of the Chief and Captain. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gourd. Chief Stewart noted that this will not be done until the weather is warmer as the paint won't adhere to the road. All in favor, motion approved.

b. Letter Re: Parking – Corner of Avery Street & Route 1, Mystic

The Police Department and Commission received a letter from a citizen concerned with a parking spot at the corner of Avery Street & Route 1 in Mystic. Chief Stewart met with the business owner who has been parking in this spot for approximately two years. Planning & Zoning was contacted and it was found that this parking spot is on the business property, not Town property. The consensus of the Commission was to take no action.

c. Letter Re: Intersection of Route 27 and Coogan Blvd., Mystic

Chief Stewart drove through area and found that the markings on the road are okay. Drivers may just be unfamiliar with the intersection. FYI.

6. Approval of Minutes for November 12, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 12, 2015 regular meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. Commissioner Gourd abstained. No discussion. Motion approved.

7. Approval of Minutes for November 16, 2015 Special Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 16, 2015 special meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. Commissioner Gourd abstained. No discussion. Motion approved.

8. Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report

Overtime budget is over spent.

b. Monthly Report

Quite busy. 113 DWI arrests for this year, 42 drug arrests. 2,600+ motor vehicle stops.

c. Pawcatuck Statistics

Chamber camera is up and running.

d. Alarm Report

e. Special Event Schedule

f. 2015 Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend Statistics

Chief Stewart noted that a bid waiver was received from the Board of Finance to choose a company/service provider for the new phone system.

Outside lighting at Police Department – many evening meeting are held at the Police Department and there are concerns with the poorly lit road due to limited spots in the lot and people needed to park in the shopping center lot next door. A study that was completed shows it will cost approximately $10,000 to put up two LED lights on each pole. One will illuminate our parking lot. There will be no need to re-wire the poles. The cost will not come from the Police Department budget. Finance Director Jim Sullivan will find funding for the project to be completed ASAP.

Stuff-A-Cruiser event will be on Saturday, 12/12/15 from 9-2.

The swearing-in ceremony for the three newly hired officers will be on 12/21/15. Officer Hewes will start immediately and should be out on his own by February. Officers Souza and Cody will begin at the Academy on 12/31/15. This will bring the Department to full strength with 37 officers.

g. 2016 Capital Improvement Projects Budget *VOTE NEEDED
Chief Stewart presented the 2016 Capital Improvement Budget.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to accept the Capital Improvement Budget for the period 2015-2021 as presented. Commissioner Trebisacci seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

h. 2016/2017 Operating Budget *POSSIBLE VOTE*
Chief Stewart presented the 2016/2017 Police Department Operating Budget. Once presented the consensus of the Commission was to vote on the budget in totality.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to increase the hourly salary of non-union personnel at the discussed rate of 2.6%. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

As the Commission reached the consensus noted above, Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the budget in its entirety with variables as discussed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

I. Renewal of Permits for Pedestrian Safety Signs
FYI

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

9. Consent Agenda
a. Thank You Note: Halloween Parade
b. Letters Re: J. Neil Spillane
c. Letter Re: Thank You – Ward Smith, POCD Implementation Committee
d. Letter Re: Santa's Arrival
e. Letter Re: Mystic Half Marathon
f. Letter Re: Kelley's Pace Events
g. Memo Re: Great Job – Youth Officer Paige
h. Borough Holiday Stroll
i. Memo Re: Thank You – K9 Officer Palmer
j. Letter Re: Employer Support of Guard and Reserve Program
k. Message Center Management Sub-Lease Agreement
l. Kelley's Pace Events

Commissioner Holt made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

10. Executive Session
At 6:16 p.m. Commissioner Holt made a motion to enter Executive Session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

At 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gourd, to come out of Executive Session. All in favor, motion approved.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to offer a conditional offer of employment to Cameron Lynch and Robin Schwarze for the positions of Part Time Dispatchers pending the successful completion of background, psychological, and physical examinations. No discussion, all in favor.

11. Adjourn
At 8:02 p.m. Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick J. Moukawsher
Chairman