

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Monday, March 14, 2016  
5:00 p.m. at Stonington Police Headquarters**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Patrick Moukawsher and Vice Chairman Harry Holt  
Commissioners Raymond Trebisacci and Henri Gourd  
Chief Darren Stewart and Captain Todd Olson

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Moukawsher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Moukawsher made the following statement:

"Before we go forward this afternoon, I would like to take a moment to remember 3 people important to this department who were lost to various forms of cancer this past week. They were Sgt. Tim Marley's father Lewis who lost his battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Dorian Murray, the 8 year old son of Officer Chris Murray and stepson of Officer Kristy Rebello Murray and our own Commissioner Peter Rotella. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and with their families.

As for Commissioner Rotella - he will be missed for the balance he brought this commission at a critical time and at his own political expense, for his perspective, for his thoughtful advice, and for the incredible effort he put forth despite frequently debilitating illness to participate in the proceedings of this commission and to support this department. It was inspiring and it will not be forgotten."

**2. Remarks of Visitors**

None

**3. Correspondence**

**a. Blessing of the Fleet 5K Race \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Michelle Crowley & Debbie Crowley, Blessing 5K Committee

Event scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2016. This is the second year for this event, no route changes or other changes. Chief Stewart inquired how many officers were at the event last year. Michelle Crowley responded that there were two (2) officers and a Community Service Officer. Commissioner Gourd noted that it is nice to have a race to support the local community.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the event as presented upon proof of proper insurance and such other requirements as the administration may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**b. Sergio Franchi Concert \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Bob O'Shaughnessey

Event scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 2016. This event has taken place for many years. They hire the proper number of officers and hire private security.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the event as presented upon proof of proper insurance and such other requirements as the administration may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**c. Mystic Aquarium Food Truck Rally \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Tom Thompson & Monica Dmuchowski, Mystic Aquarium

Event dates: Saturday, May 21, 2016 and Sunday, May 22, 2016. Last year was the first year for the Food Truck Rally, it was very successful. Organizers have worked with Chief Stewart and Captain Olson on recommended improvements. Commissioner Moukawsher asked Thompson to explain the move of the event location on the property. Thompson explained that last year the event was in front of the main Aquarium entrance. It has been moved to the bus lot and will be fenced with two (2) entrances. The number of officers hired for the event will increase from last year. Chief Stewart noted that last year there didn't seem to be enough personnel as people were leaving the property with alcohol. Dmuchowski said the event was not contained last year. There will be fencing this year with staff at the entrances. Also an entry fee. There will be a family friendly DJ providing music. Alcohol will be provided by Ocean Blue Catering, which is fully licensed and will be the only one selling alcohol. It will be beer and wine only, event goers will be carded and provided with a bracelet.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the event as presented upon proof of proper insurance and such other requirements as the administration may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**d. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit Application – Mall, Inc. \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Christopher Regan, Olde Mistick Village

Application regarding the relocation of Bleu Squid restaurant to the former laundromat building. Will be open 630 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is adequate parking. There were concerns raised about the curbing between the parking lot and the porch decking. Regan said there will be rails around the porch with designated walkways and there will be plantings between the curbing and the porch.

Commissioner Raymond Trebisacci made a motion to forward application to Planning and Zoning with comment that there are no adverse traffic impacts or safety impacts. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**e. Planning & Zoning Regulation Amendment: Re: Micro-Breweries \*COMMENTS NEEDED\***

The Board of Police Commissioners had no comment other than they will look at this on a case by case basis.

**f. E-Mail Re: Fun Walk for Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Vicki Anderson, Executive Director and Mary Wilska, Secretary - Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center

Looking for permission – new event – fun walk for Hunger Awareness. There was a discussion regarding the number of events that take place in Town and concerns with this particular event traveling on Route 1 during a busy time. Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center personnel seemed to understand that there is more involved with the planning of such an event. Chief Stewart will meet with Vicki Anderson to discuss possible alternatives next week.

**g. Letter Re: Donahue Race \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Event scheduled for Friday, April 22, 2016. This is the tenth year for this event. No issues.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the event as presented upon proof of proper insurance and such other requirements as the administration may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**4. Traffic**

**a. Letter Re: Parking – Mystic River Bridge \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Alan Ferrance and Phillip Latouche, Old Saybrook Bridge Department

Request for one additional parking spot in Downtown Mystic for bridge operators. This would be primarily for the shift change at 4:00 p.m. as per a Coast Guard regulation, bridge operators must change shifts in the bridge house. After much discussion, the Commission would like to see the Bridge Department approach Groton Town Police Department to see if they can provide a spot on their side. The Commission will revisit this issue if necessary.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to table this issue. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**b. Letter Re: 3-Way Stop, Old Mystic \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Letter received from resident outlining concerns about the 3-way stop in Old Mystic.

Chief Stewart will forward this to the Department of Transportation for their thoughts or ideas. The Commission had no objections to this. No action taken at this time.

**c. E-Mail Re: Reflectors \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Stuart Schwartzstein

2 Summit Street, Stonington

Schwartzstein present to discuss proposal to install "cat's eye" reflectors on Town roads, particularly noted is North Main Street. He has no personal stake in this, just wants to improve safety in areas with limited visibility. He states that these types of reflectors are highly effective and can be recessed into roads with no problems to snow plows. A discussion followed touching on cost and installation of reflectors, long term issues, maintenance, and also how to determine which roads to put them on. Chief Stewart noted that North Main Street is a State designated scenic road. Any improvements made to North Main Street would have to go through the Town's Planning and Zoning office. The Board of Police Commissioners cannot act on this road.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to table this issue for further discussion. He said if the real concern is with North Main Street, Planning & Zoning will have to be contacted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gourd. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**d. Letter Re: Greenmanville Avenue, Mystic**

Chief Stewart drove through this area between I95 and Route 1 and noted there are nine pedestrian crosswalks, signs that say crosswalk ahead, and three traffic lights that are pedestrian controlled. There is trash on the road and there will be trash no matter what. This will be an issue that may come up at a later date as the Denison Pequotsepos Farm project may result in a request for a crosswalk.

**e. Memo Re: Highway Safety Grant**

Each year the Police Department participates in a safety grant. This will be a high visibility grant dealing with hand held devices.

**f. New Streetlight Request Form \*FYI\***

**5. Approval of Minutes for February 11, 2016 Regular Meeting \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**6. Report of the Chief of Police**

**a. Budget Report**

Budget is in good shape. 70% through the fiscal year and 66% of budget has been used. Only line to note is new officer uniforms, which is over budget, but the overall grouping is not.

**b. Monthly Report**

**c. Pawcatuck Statistics**

**d. Alarm Report**

**e. Special Event Schedule**

**f. Badge Request**

Lt. Schneider had a patch made for officers to use on outer garments in place of their regular badge which could be lost when switching from shirt to coat. Officers will pay to have the patch sewn on.

**g. Officer Sarah Emery – End of Probation \*VOTE NEEDED\***

All is good with Officer Sarah Emery, Chief Stewart recommends she be made a regular member of the Department.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to have Officer Sarah Emery be made a full member of the Department. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**h. Resignation of Officer Brian Cozzolino**

**i. Letter Re: Climate Change Task Force**

FYI

**j. 2015 Annual Training Report**

FYI

Chairman Moukawsher noted that Lt. Peckham is doing a good job with training report.

**k. Use of Force Policies \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Five Use of Force Policies presented to be approved. There are changes that will need to be made to some of the policies as follows:

Chapter 3 Section E: Off Duty Firearms Carry

Section II. Policy – First paragraph. Changing "Sworn personnel are authorized to carry the Stonington Police Department issued firearm in Connecticut and Rhode Island only when off duty" to "**When off duty**, sworn personnel are authorized to carry the Stonington Police Department issued firearm in Connecticut and Rhode Island."

Chapter 3, Section D: Police Patrol Rifle

Section III. Training, item 4. Changing "A police officer who has taken extended leave or suffered an illness or injury that could affect his or her ability to use a patrol rifle will be required to re-qualify before he or she are allowed to employ a patrol on duty." to "A police officer who has taken extended leave or suffered an illness or injury that could affect his or her ability to use a patrol rifle will be required to re-qualify before he or she are allowed to **carry** a patrol **rifle** on duty."

Chapter 3 Firearms for On-Duty Use, Use of Force and Administrative Procedures for Shooting Incidents

V. Use of Force Section 5 Reporting Use of Force Item d. Changing "The shift supervisor will review all use of force form..." to "The shift supervisor will review all use of force forms..."

Motions regarding Use of Force policies:

Commissioner Gourd made a motion to accept Chapter 3 Section E Off Duty Firearms Carry with changes outlined by Chief Stewart. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

Commissioner Gourd made a motion to accept Chapter 3 Section D Police Patrol Rifle with changes outlined by Chief Stewart. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

Commissioner Gourd made a motion to accept Chapter 3 Section A Oleoresin Capsicum Spray and Chapter 3 Section B Special Impact Munitions as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

Commissioner Gourd made a motion to accept Chapter 3 Firearms for On-Duty Use, Use of Force and Administrative Procedures for Shooting Incidents with changes outlined by Chief Stewart. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**l. Marine Policy**

No changes from what was presented last month. This item is tabled.

**m. Radio Discussion**

Chief Stewart will be sending a letter of thanks for Chief Mahoney of Waterford Police Department. Chief Mahoney came to the Board of Finance meeting and did an excellent job in support of our program. A grant for funding of the regional radio system, not purchasing individual radio units, should be available soon.

**n. Mystic Outdoor Art Festival – Golf Carts \*VOTE NEEDED\***

Commissioner Holt made a motion to authorize the use of golf carts as appropriate for the Mystic Outdoor Art Festival. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**o. Animal Control Fence Request**

A citizen has requested that a fence for an outdoor run area for dogs be authorized for the Animal Control Facility using the \$25,000 funds that were previously donated/gifted. Chief Stewart is reaching out to the family to see if this would be an appropriate use of these funds. If yes, he will come back to Commission with quotes.

Commissioner Holt made a motion to accept the Report of the Chief of Police. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gourd. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**7. Consent Agenda**

**a. Letter Re: Completion of Basic Recruit Training – Officer Friend**

**b. Letters Re: Mystic Irish Parade**

**c. Letter Re: Mystic Memorial Day Parade**

**d. Letters Re: Mystic Outdoor Art Festival**

**e. Letters Re: YMCA Events Triathlon, Tarzan Brown, Turkey Trot**

**f. Highway Use Permits: Mystic Irish Parade, Pawcatuck River Duck Race, Mystic Outdoor Art Festival, Tarzan Brown Race**

**g. Letter Re: Memorial Day Parade**

**h. Letter Re: Thank You – Chief Mahoney**

**i. Memo Re: Thank You – Officer Cullen & Detective Howard**

**j. E-Mail Re: Police Boat Dock**

**k. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Barrell**

**l. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Brummund**

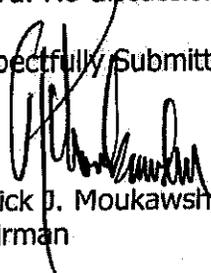
**m. TruGreen 2016 Service Contract**

Commissioner Holt made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**8. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Holt. Motion seconded by Commissioner Gourd. No discussion, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Patrick J. Moukawsher  
Chairman