

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL WEBEX MEETING

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-OR-

Streaming live on the Town of Stonington's Facebook page

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Robert O'Shaughnessy & Vice Chairman Bob Tabor
Commissioners Bob Elmer, Bill Turner Lisa Tepper Bates
Chief Darren Stewart & Captain Todd Olson

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Election of Board Officers *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner Tabor made a motion to nominate Robert O'Shaughnessy as Chairman of the Board of Police Commissions beginning today and for the ensuing year. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. Discussion: Commissioner Bates offered the following discussion:

First, I would like to thank the Board of Selectpersons for the honor of appointing me to this important body. I have lived in Stonington for 15 years, my husband is a native of this great community, and our son knows only Stonington as "home." It is a privilege to serve my community through this role, and I am eager to work together with the other commissioners, Chief Stewart, and the department as a whole. There is much to be proud of in our Police Department, and I look forward to building on those strengths to help keep making our Department better every day.

At this meeting, today, the most important item before us is to select a Chair of this body. While the Police Commission Chair has relatively limited specific authority, it is nonetheless an important position. The Chair leads the commission. The Chair often speaks for the commission. By electing someone to Chair, we are elevating that individual as a standard-bearer for this department and our community.

Those who lead any public body must clearly represent the values that we embrace as a town. This is even more important with regard to Stonington's Police Commission, given the role with which we are charged: to provide civilian oversight of the police on behalf of all Stonington residents and businesses – whoever they are, however they identify themselves, and wherever they came from to our town.

With this in mind, I regret that I cannot vote for Robert O'Shaughnessy as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy has many strong positives in his record of service to the state and the community. However, in the very recent past, he endorsed clearly and publicly – not once, but multiple times – opinions that are directly contradictory to the values this Commission should represent.

I believe very strongly in free speech. I also believe that people can learn and change, and that we must as a society provide space for this opportunity. I do not pretend to stand in judgement of Mr. O'Shaughnessy – or any other individual – as a person.

I also believe, however, that every individual must be held accountable for the views and opinions they endorse. This is especially true for anyone who has the privilege to hold, whether by election or appointment, an office of the public trust.

At this point in time in our nation and our community, it is more important than perhaps ever before that those of us who have the opportunity to lead our communities are clear about our values. This is my expectation, and it is the expectation of the many, many Stonington residents that I know. Those values include that all people are welcome in Stonington, and that all people are entitled to fair and equal treatment by the police and by all other town and civic bodies. We should be expected to bring different perspectives to this Commission. At the same time, all people in our town have the right to hear in every expression of our opinions that we have fundamental respect for each and every individual in our town.

I want to make clear that I am firmly resolved to work cooperatively with any and all members of this Commission going forward and in the best interests of this community. However, I believe we owe it to the people of Stonington to ensure that the leadership of important bodies like this are clear through what they do and what they say that they represent these values. It is therefore my intention to vote "Nay," on the motion of electing Mr. O'Shaughnessy Chair of the Stonington Board of Police Commissioners.

No further discussion. Commissioner Tabor, yay, Commissioner Elmer, yay, Commissioner Turner, yay Commissioner Bates, nay. Motion approved.

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to nominate Robert Tabor as Vice Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to nominate Bob Elmer as Secretary of the Board of Police Commissioners. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

3. Remarks of the Public

None (due to technical difficulties see comments below).

4. New Business

a. Daigle Law Group introduction *POSSIBLE VOTE*
Attorney Eric Daigle

Chief Stewart noted that policies and procedures are a monumental task. As of late, the legislature has required the Police Department to be accredited. In order to do so, many departments enlist an

organization to assist them in meeting accreditation standards. Chief Stewart recommends the Board of Police Commissioners allows him to go to the Board of Finance to move approximately \$20,000 into an account to hire Daigle Law Firm to revamp Stonington Police policies.

Attorney Daigle gave a brief history about himself and the firm. He has been involved in law enforcement for over 30 years and has been in the practice of law enforcement operations for twenty years at Daigle Law firm which is a management organizational consultant firm to ensure departments are meeting the requirements of legal operational standards. He works with police executives across the country and focuses on systems to ensure that police executives have assistance in developing a policy manual to meet the needs of the community. The Daigle Law Firm will work with the Department to meet all standards, the national accreditations, (CALEA) and CT POST, the State standard along with state statutes, laws and guiding principles and work to develop a policy that will meet the needs of the community.

Commissioner Elmer asked if this accreditation has been done previously for this Department? Attorney Daigle stated he does not believe so and Chief Stewart confirmed the Department has not been through this process. Attorney Daigle noted that the key is for the Stonington Police Department's policy manual to meet national accreditations. One of Attorney Daigle's latest clients is the City of Bridgeport. Commissioner Bates asked whether this accreditation could open up the possibilities to obtain available grants to departments with this set of credentials? Attorney Daigle noted that grants will be directly related to proper policy and proper training. The federal government will only be providing grants to departments that meet these standards. The grant program has not been fully defined yet, however this process will be beneficial. Chairman O'Shaughnessy asked for the range of what this process will cost the Department? Attorney Daigle estimated that, based on the Department's size, it will cost between \$15-20,000 and this process will take approximately 18-months to complete. Vice Chairman Tabor asked, when the contract is finalized, if there is an upfront cost to lock in Attorney Daigle's services? Attorney Daigle stated that no, there are no upfront costs or retainer fees. There will be a monthly billing process. As work progresses the Police Commissioner's will get continued updates.

Chief Stewart stated that Attorney Daigle is one of the top experts in use of force. Chief Stewart highly recommends the Police Commission allows him to go to the Board of Finance and move funds from the Reserve Officer line item. He noted that the Department will have to meet these standards anyway due to changes in State law and requirements. Vice Chairman Tabor commented that there is some sensibility in getting at the beginning of the line since Attorney Daigle's services will be in demand. Commissioner Elmer noted there will be a return on this investment with being qualified for grants.

Commissioner Bates made a motion to authorize the Chief to move forward with the Board of Finance in regard to Daigle Law Group. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. All in favor, motion approved.

b. Planning & Zoning Application: Garden Homes Derby Co, LP *COMMENTS NEEDED*

Attorney Mark Branse, representing applicant Garden Homes

Attorney Branse informed the Police Commission that this application is in regard to the existing Fair Acres Mobile Home park which became legally non-conforming at some point in the past. They are planning on adding ten units on the northeast quadrant of the property. The application was filed under the CT Affordable Home Act which exempts it from local zoning. He explained how that thirty percent of the units must be deemed restricted for forty years to be sold or rented at prices considered affordable

under the act. They will be constructing ten, double wide units. Attorney Branse noted that there are multiple accesses to the site.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy asked if they will be using the existing egress and exit to the site to which Attorney Branse stated yes. Vice Chairman Tabor asked if Attorney Branse could highlight the typical requirements that they will not have to meet for zoning. Attorney Branse noted that the number of units given the acreage does not meet the typical requirements. Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented on the moratorium in Town in regard to sewer connections. Attorney Branse noted that the project will have to wait to break ground until that issue is resolved.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to pass along the following comments to Planning and Zoning; that the Police Commission sees no issues with traffic, parking or safety with this application as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bates. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

*** At this time Mr. Roger Kizer announced that there is a glitch in the Webex system and he asked the call-in users to hang up and call back in if they would like to speak at the meeting since he is unable to unmute callers.

Diana Lurie Boersome,

Ms. Boersome reminded that she spoke at last month's meeting regarding Clyde's Cider Mill. Many people are complying with keeping all four tires off the roadway, however, others are not. She has still seen parking issues at Clyde's and has not seen any tickets on cars. She also wants Clyde's to remove the signs at the end of the season and also remove the nails as they have damaged the trees. She is requesting that, next season, Clyde's post the signs independently and not on the trees. Ms. Boersome commented that the mill seems to be increasing its efforts to convince people to stay longer which exacerbates the issue with their lot being too small to accommodate their patrons. According to Ms. Boersome, at the beginning of the season Clyde's had five tables outside, now they have around sixteen tables. She stated that there should be something regulating the use of the property. The overflow of parking on the road is inconvenient to the neighborhood for a variety of reasons.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that the Police Commissioners have received Ms. Boersome's email and they are aware of her concerns. Captain Olson will revisit this issue. The Police Commission will get together at the beginning of the year to help remedy the situation for the next season.

Sarah Baker, Mystic

Ms. Baker thanked Commissioner Bates for her thoughtful remarks at the beginning of the meeting and supports the remarks she offered. She stated that leaders matter. She offered an experience that she had at a Black Lives Matter rally outside the Borough Free Library led by New London City Councilor Kevin Booker Jr. Mr. Booker shared a story at the rally about how he felt he had to dress on an unseasonably hot day in July as to not receive suspicious looks. Ms. Baker feels that no person should ever have to feel that way. Ms. Baker voiced her support for Commissioner Bates' comments. Chairman O'Shaughnessy thanked Ms. Baker for her comments.

c. Letter Re: Request for Two (2) Additional Stop Signs – Intersection of Wolcott Avenue and Hopkins Street *VOTE NEEDED*

Steven Dodd, 59 Wolcott Ave., Lords Point Association President

Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that they have already put in a stop sign in this area and he asked Vice Chairman Tabor to comment. Vice Chairman Tabor noted that this request comes from Steven Dodd, Lords Point Association President, to add two additional stop signs on Wolcott Avenue since residents have still seen issues at this intersection. He noted that there are a lot of kids in the area. Vice Chairman Tabor recommends installing the signs as requested.

Mr. Dodd noted there are a lot of kids on bicycles and there are also site line issues at this intersection. The Lords Point Association has unanimously requested the signage. Chief Stewart also recommends adding the signage as requested.

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to approve two stop signs. Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Tabor. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

d. E-Mail Re: Request for Two (2) Caution Signs – Cove Road *VOTE NEEDED*

The Police Commissioners received an email from Ms. Laura Noone. Chief Stewart noted that Officer Hersh and Officer Saunders spoke with the requestor. Chief Stewart recommends installing the caution signs on Cove Rd. as requested.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to approve two caution kids signs on Cove Rd. and direct the Chief to coordinate with Town Highway Department to install them. Motion seconded by Commissioner Turner. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

e. E-Mail Re: 2021 Mystic Half Marathon *VOTE NEEDED*

Josh Miller, Vice President & Race Director, Hartford Marathon Foundation

According to Mr. Miller, the 7th Annual Mystic Half Marathon and 10K Race is being planned for November 14, 2021. It is historically held in May, however, due to Covid-19, they are asking approvals for the November 2021 date. They will check on the Covid-19 guidelines in early summer. Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that it may be too early to approve this event. Chief Stewart commented that the Hartford Marathon is a great organization and very professional and noted that they are trying to get the event organized in advance. Chief Stewart commented to Mr. Miller to be aware that there could be snow in November and he also noted that they will have to contend with possible issues with Hartford Health and the new Harbor Heights development. Chief Stewart recommends the Police Commission approves this event.

Commissioner Bates spoke in favor of approving the event and noted that it is important to have this type of event which is really important to a lot of people in the community. The pandemic is taking a real psychological toll on people and at a time where so much has been cancelled to be able to put this type of event on the calendar and allow them to begin advertising is important.

Commissioner Bates made a motion to approve the Mystic Half Marathon Event to be held Sunday, November 14, 2021 as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart commented to Mr. Miller that they will need to provide the insurance and any other documents ahead of time, as usual.

f. E-Mail Re: 3D Crosswalks *POSSIBLE ACTION*

Rob Hersh, Stonington Resident

Chief Stewart noted that this is a great concept, however, he has not heard of the State of CT embracing this concept yet. Commissioner Turner asked how a 3D crosswalk is different? Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that the crosswalk is visually different, for example; a piano, musical notes or bricks. Commissioner Elmer has seen examples that are optical illusions and some even look elevated.

Mr. Hersh did some research on these types of crosswalks and noted that New London has these types of crosswalks. They can be chalked out and painted by hand. Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that it is an interesting concept and he would like to see what they look like and find out what State DOT's position is regarding them. Commissioner Bates proposed getting information from Chief Stewart whether there are troublesome crosswalks to consider. Chief Stewart noted the following crosswalks that have been considered: E. Main St. at the flag pole, E. Main St. in front of Bravo Bravo, Downtown Pawcatuck on Route 1 at Coggswell St., Route 1 in front of Mel's Creamery, West Broad Street at St. Michael's School, Route 2 in front of Saint Michael's Church, and the three crosswalks on Route 27 at the Mystic Seaport. The vast majority of crosswalks listed are located on State highways and Chief Stewart is not aware of the State approving these types of crosswalks but he will reach out to the State and inquire. Cost is also a factor to consider.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented there will not be any painting until spring so more information can be gathered before then and anything the Police Commission can do to improve these crosswalks should be looked into. He thanked Mr. Hersh for his interest in this.

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to table this item until January. Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Tabor. All in favor, motion approved.

g. Quality Inn Report

Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that this report was ordered by the Town and was posted on the Town website. He asked if anyone from public was in attendance to comment.

Sandra Laub, Pawcatuck

Ms. Laub stated the following:

Good evening, my name is Sandra Laub, I live in Pawcatuck. I too wanted to welcome Lisa Tepper Bates to the Board, and like Sara Baker, wanted to applaud her statement at the start of these proceedings. I appreciate her honesty and fresh perspective on this board and look forward to following her progress. That being said...

I'm looking forward to hearing what steps the Board will take based on the investigative report that found many so-called tactical errors related to Ms. Crystal Caldwell's attack and the escape of her attacker. After studying that report myself, respectfully, here are some of my thoughts and suggestions, this is about a four-minute statement—I appreciate your giving me the time I need to make it.

I believe that the errors in judgement made by Stonington Police officers at the scene of the crime were made in the context of systemic racism. I believe that virtually every town in America has been touched by a renewed call for racial justice and police reform; Stonington was and is no different. Sara referenced that July 6th rally. I believe that after such a divisive summer, after a racist incident such as what happened at the Quality Inn, we are all called on to do just what is happening now---investigate, come to an understanding about how to mitigate an environment that invites such egregious errors in professional judgement, and then FOLLOW THROUGH with committed action. I'll give you three main faults I found, based on the report, and suggest several actionable steps:

First: The fact that on the day of the attack, Ms. Caldwell's in person testimony, her co-worker's in person testimony, and even just that bit of video officers were able to view at the scene of the attack—we know they did not see the vicious beating until days later, when we all saw it on social media—this fact that officers knew the extent of the violence and racist slurs directed at Ms. Caldwell – this truth that the officers on site allowed the assailant to be taken to hospital before arresting him, this to me is THE most important, most horrendous reminder of the systemic racism that exists just under the surface of our close to ninety percent white community. It has been said, and I agree, if the roles had been reversed, would the attackers have been allowed to escape? Would the police have been so solicitous to the attacker? Would the police have acted with such a lack of urgency?

Second: The lack of clear communication between officers and the true victim, not Sarner, who looms ridiculously large in this report – the officers had plenty of conversations with him, but did they have clear communication with the discharge nurse at L&M? No. With Ms. Caldwell's son, who knew the attackers had already left? No. Clear, open and sympathetic communication that would have favored the true victim over her attacker both during and after the day's events might have, in hindsight, -- to use the words of the report --prevented the attacker from escaping and endangering other communities for weeks after what happened in Mystic.

Third: The official press statement issued by SPD was inaccurate, and left the public in the dark about actual covid protocols at area hospitals – that press release was based on errors made by the officer at the scene, and that's a generous way to say it.

Actionable steps:

First: Schedule anti-racism training -do it virtually now, --as we teachers in public schools have received it – in some cases it is given for free by the ADL, or by local officers with perhaps more expertise--give these trainings as paid professional development. Let the public know they are being given --let's see it happen on a regular, required basis, and let's see it taken seriously from the top down.

Second: Let's see an update in covid-era communications training, especially as it relates to coordination between police and hospital staff. And let's see an updated press release that is accurate based on the report.

Third: Let's see follow up with the victim after the attack --that is a place for social services to follow through as an arm of future police reform.

Fourth and last, my recommendation: is that the officers most intimately involved with the case make a personal apology to Ms. Caldwell. If that is not something that has ever been done before, maybe it is time to start now. Those officers are the ones who saw her in shock, with the ice pack to her eye, they are the ones who finally saw those moments of the video when she was set upon, grabbed, held down, and kicked in the head. Put yourself in her shoes. How do you think it felt to be attacked physically and verbally, to be called those vile, racist names? To be told that your attacker would be arrested...and then...nothing. Thank God she is alive. APOLOGIZE. That is how healing begins. Thank you for your time.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy stated the following:

The Town of Stonington hired the firm of Blum Shapiro & Company, P.C. to conduct an independent fact finding and review of the police practices and response to an incident that occurred in the Town at the Quality Inn on June 26th 2020.

This review was assigned to Attorney Frank Rudewicz who has more than thirty years experience as a police officer and attorney in conducting these types of investigations. A review and final investigative report of Attorney Rudewicz showed that good decisions based on the circumstances known at the time by officers sometimes do not produce the desired results. The findings reached by Attorney Rudewicz was there was no violations of policy, procedure or law. During the investigation, one of the areas he was tasked to review were five previous incidents that had similar fact patterns and found that minority suspects were not treated any differently than the suspect in this matter. He also did not find any racial bias or malicious intent by the Stonington Police Department in the failure to take Sarnier into custody on June 26th. Attorney Rudewicz found that the Stonington Police Department conducted a professional, thorough and complete investigation that concluded in the arrest of two suspects on more serious charges.

The Police Commission wants to underscore that the Police Department of Stonington is here to support our community. They are fully committed to this mission to taking additional steps going forward to make the Department better everyday and to ensure that we get the diversity of our community. As suggested by Attorney Rudewicz, this report will be referred to Chief Stewart for review of the incident response as a training tool for similar incidents. Chief Stewart has been directed to report back to the Commission on his findings.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that the Police Commissioners have received a letter from Rae of Hope outlining their concerns which will be added to the file for the Chief to review.

Commissioner Bates commented that there was an unintended omission by the Chair in his statement on behalf of the Police Commission. It was Commissioner Bates' understanding that, in addition to taking steps to make the Department better every day, they also would like to ensure to continue to honor the diversity of our community.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy corrected as follows:

The Police Commission wants to underscore that the Police Department of Stonington is here to support and defend every member of our community. We are fully committed to this mission to taking additional steps going forward to make the Department better everyday and to ensure that we continue to honor the diversity of our community.

Commissioner Bates confirmed that this was the statement that was simply omitted by accident.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to formally accept the independent investigation of the response of the Stonington Police Department on June 26th 2020 and provide it to the Chief of the Department for a departmental review for subsequent policy and procedural improvements and recommendations which will be reported back to the Police Commission for further action. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

5. Old Business

a. Washington Street & Willow Street Parking *TABLED FROM OCTOBER MEETING -POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM*

Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that Vice Chairman Tabor received a letter about concerns with the Cottrell Street redesign. The Police Commission will add this letter to the file and will address this when it comes up for review after the two-year trial period. Chairman O'Shaughnessy noted that they have seen increased traffic due to Covid-19. The Town of Stonington and Groton Town have entered into an agreement to hire a consultant to look into parking. This is in the infant stages of development, according to Chairman O'Shaughnessy. This study is for parking, not traffic flow, however, Chairman O'Shaughnessy will report back to the Police Commission as this develops.

Chief Stewart noted that it was proposed at one time to have Willow Street one way out to E. Main St. He has heard some positives in regard to the redesign and parking and he noted that there have been fewer accidents at the intersections downtown.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that on Jackson Ave. and Willow St. they have defined the parking.

Tabled until spring, possibly April meeting.

6. Traffic / Boating

a. e-Mail Re: Request for Town Dock Wayfaring Signs

Chief Stewart noted that if attraction signs are up on I95 they need to add signs in Town on how to get to the attraction. This is more of an Economic Development issue. Chief Stewart sent off the information to Ms. Cullen and the First Selectwoman. If the State DOT determines signage will be placed on the I95 it will then come before the Police Commission. Chief Stewart will check back with them.

b. E-Mail Re: North Main Street at Cutler

The Police Commission decided to put crossing traffic does not stop signs up to see if this resolves the issue at N. Main Street at Cutler Street and they will readdress this if necessary.

7. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, October 8, 2020 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to approve the minutes for the Thursday, October 8, 2020 Regular Meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Turner. Commissioner Bates abstained, non-member of the Police Commission at the time. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

8. Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report

Chief Stewart noted that the Department is 33% through the budget year. Looking at bottom line, chief Stewart commented that the Department is in the black. The only line item that is having a bit of difficulty is Overtime. A Sergeant just retired and two other officers retired so it put a bit of stress on patrol. He also commented that there were a few larger cases recently.

b. Monthly Statistics

Chief Stewart commented that we are still in the Covid world. There were forty-nine criminal arrests compared to thirty-eight last year. There were a series of motor vehicle larcenies, however, these have slowed down.

c. Alarm Report

Chief Stewart noted a decline in registration of alarms due to non-traditional alarm services, or DIY monitoring.

d. Special Event Schedule

Chief Stewart commented that hopefully these events will start to increase.

e. Letter Re: POST Compliance to Law Enforcement Standards and Practices Program

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commissioners that the Police Academy came in and did an audit on the Department's Policies and Procedures. He commented that the Department passed but it is necessary for Attorney Daigle to come in and keep the Department up-to-date.

f. Use of Force Update

Chief Stewart noted that there was no use of force incidents in October.

g. Part Time ACO

Chief Stewart mentioned that they interviewed three candidates for part-time ACO, one has a conditional offer and he hopes to have that ACO on board in another month.

h. Bulletproof Vests

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commissioners that the vests have come in. Chief Stewart showed one to the Police Commissioners. They used the CIP account and Bulletproof Partnership Grant in order to purchase the vests.

i. ACO Vehicle Bid Waiver *VOTE NEEDED*

According to Chief Stewart, the current year CIP was \$35,000 and he is also interested in using the Dog Registration Funds (there is \$50,000 in that account). They are looking at an F-250 pickup and the Swab Wagon Company to upfit the body. The Department will need to go to the Board of Finance to get a bid waiver. Chief Stewart recommends the Police Commission approves this and he will go to the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Turner made a motion to accept the ACO Vehicle Bid Waiver. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bates. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commissioners that, if they are interested, there will be a four-hour, implicit bias training course held online on the 20th. Chief Stewart and Chairman O'Shaughnessy have signed up. Every police officer in Connecticut is required to go through hate and bias training every three years as part of their recertification. Commissioner Bates will join the training and feels that 100% of the Police Commissioners should as well as it will set a good example. Chief Stewart will send the training back out to the Police Commissioners to sign up. The training was set up by Town Hall.

No shave November is in full gear. The money donated will go to help fight cancer.

Chief Stewart will be going to the Board of Finance with a grant for the police boat to update the electronics.

Chief Stewart was invited to speak at the CT State Police graduation and the New Britain Regional Police Academy graduation.

Chief Stewart had a conversation with CCADB, CT 211 and Mobile Outreach on how to get social services involved on calls that officers go on involving mental health assistance or domestic violence assistance. He will be talking with CT 211 and have continued conversations. Commissioner Bates noted she is pleased to collaborate; she is the president and CEO of United Way of Connecticut and runs 211 which is the emergency call center funded in part by the State of Connecticut. They have a variety of twenty-four-hour mental health supports and work closely with the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Department of Children and Families and the Department of Social Services. Commissioner Bates wants Stonington officers to be aware of and have access to the services that are available. Chief Stewart also commented that the Department has an MOU with Safe Futures and are also involved with Mobil Outreach. Vice Chairman Tabor mentioned the Chaplain Program as well.

Chief Stewart commented that he was on Food for Thought with Christ Church and received interest from Reverend Chandy to possibly become a Chaplain down the road.

Chief Stewart reminded that we are still in the middle of an opioid crisis. He noted that Officer Long used Narcan on an individual and brought him back.

Chairman O'Shaughnessy commented that he was remiss on not welcoming Commissioner Bates to the Police Commission. Her expertise will be a great benefit to the Police Commission.

Vice Chairman Tabor made a motion to accept the Report of the Chief of Police. Motion seconded by Commissioner Turner. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

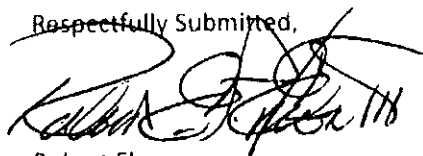
9. Consent Agenda

- a. E-Mail Re: Stonington Farm to Families Pop Up Distribution
- b. Memos Re: Job Well Done
- c. Thank You from Sergeant Theresa Hersh

10. Adjourn

At 6:53 p.m., Commissioner Bates made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chairman Tabor, all in favor, motion approved. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Elmer
Secretary