

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 8, 2015
5:00 p.m. at the STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Vice-Chairman Patrick Moukawsher
Commissioners Harry Holt, Peter Rotella & Raymond Trebisacci
Chief Darren Stewart

Absent: Chair Mel Olsson & Captain Todd Olson

1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair Moukawsher called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2) Remarks of Visitors

None

3) Remarks of Chairman Olsson

None – Absent

4) Traffic

**a. Letter Re: Parking Issues on Haley Street, Mystic *POSSIBLE VOTE
NEEDED***

Joanne S. Barres
1 Haley St, Fl 2
Mystic, CT

Bill Scheer
4 Haley St
Mystic, CT

Carolyn Walukeiwicz
9 Haley St.
Mystic, CT

Joanne Barres sent in a letter regarding parking issues on Haley Street in Mystic. She stated that there are only nine parking spaces, and that on busy weekends and in the summer 50%-75% of the time there is no place for residents to park. She and her daughter both have valid handicap parking permits, and states that her daughter is able to park off-street. She is requesting that Haley Street be marked "Resident Parking Only".

Chief Stewart replied that streets have never been marked in such a way. To do so would be problematic as resident stickers would need to be issued. Street parking is usually open to the public. The best solution would be to create a handicap parking spot since she has a valid permit.

Bill Scheer suggested possibly limiting parking to two hours.

There were two other items Barres noted in her letter. The first item is a proposal to make Haley Street a one way street from Willow Street to Cottrell Street. This is due to narrowness in the road during the winter caused by problems with snow removal. Carolyn Walukiewicz noted that this is a very congested area with lots of pedestrians. Vice Chair Moukawsher commented that this was not advisable and recommended residents approach the Planning & Zoning Department with these concerns. The second item involves frequent parking after the "NO PARKING FROM HERE TO CORNER" sign. Chief Stewart said this would be a simple fix and he will request the Highway Department paint the curb yellow.

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to authorize Chief Stewart to use his discretion to site a location for a handicap parking space on Haley Street. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart said he will make arrangements with Barres to meet in order to look at the area to determine placement of the handicap parking spot.

b. E-Mail Re: Sign Placement – Al Harvey Road, Stonington *POSSIBLE VOTE NEEDED*

Robin Snelgrove
10 Courtland St., Pawcatuck

Robin Snelgrove is requesting safety signs be placed on Al Harvey Road following a tragic, fatal motor vehicle accident involving her son in 2014. She feels that these signs would "send a message" regarding safety, slowing down & wearing seat belts. She presented a sample of the type of sign that might be put up, possibly at the site of the crash. Vice-Chair Moukawsher stated that the Town is under some constraints by the Department of Transportation. Chief Stewart suggested separating the "warnings" on the sign may work better. Chief Stewart will set up a time to meet with Snelgrove, travel Al Harvey Road and see what can be done. This issue was tabled to a future meeting.

***NOTE: Comissioner Rotella left meeting at 5:31 p.m.**

c. Letter Re: Handicapped Parking Spot – Lester Avenue, Pawcatuck

d. E-Mail Re: Paving & Milling on Pequot Trail

This project has been cancelled to 2016

5) New Business

**a. Planning & Zoning Subdivision Regulation Text Amendment Application
*VOTE/COMMENTS NEEDED***

Commissioner Trebisacci made the following motion regarding this issue:

In regards to the Planning & Zoning Commission request for input on the Subdivision Regulation Text Amendment document the following two suggestions are recommended to the Planning and Zoning Commission that pertain to section 7.7 concerning traffic impact studies: That some provision requiring estimated measurement of traffic flow efficiency in situations where there are approved projects that proximate the applicant, are as yet incomplete, and that would affect sight lines and levels of service on access roads. In addition, the traffic impact statement may require State DOT approvals when the project could be considered a major traffic generator.

Also discussed and attached please find a 2007 letter by Chief Stewart to Keith Brynes in the Planning Department regarding large scale commercial buildings that may be part of a commercial subdivision which is included as it addresses emergency services communication, safety, and police services.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt. All in favor, motion approved.

b. E-Mail Re: POCD Implementation Schedule

FYI – will require action by December 2, 2015

Note: Agenda Item 9b was discussed at this time.

9) Old Business

**b. CME Associates Inc. State Bridge Project – Route 234 @ Anguilla Brook
Project *INFO SESSION***

Andrew Cardinali, Project Engineer
State of Connecticut Department of Transportation

Susan Bakulski, Project Engineer
CME Associates, Inc.

Donald P. Wurst, Senior Project Engineer
CME Associates, Inc.

Dobie Kania
CME Associates, Inc.

Information regarding State of Connecticut Department of Transportation project 137-158 the replacement of Bridge No. 02934 Route 234 (Pequot Trail) over Anguilla Brook. The project is still in the design phase with construction anticipated in 2017. This will be

a two season project. The bridge is structurally deficient and will be replaced with a longer span. There will be one lane of alternating traffic in either direction using signals at either end. Once the first side is complete, they will switch sides. The signal timing has not been configured yet. There will be temporary loops in the roadway. There will be signage alerting motorists leading up to the construction zone. The change in the traffic pattern is typically put in place one month in advance of project start. Chief Stewart recommends electronic signs, possibly in front of grange. The engineers will take input from Commission regarding signs. There will be a public information forum at Stonington High School next week.

***Note: Return to Regular Agenda**

6) Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2015 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Motion made by Commissioner Holt to approve minutes for September 10, 2015 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor, motion approved.

7) Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report

b. Monthly Report

Lots of activity. 89 DWI's to date, up 60-70%. Motor vehicle stops up. 192 medical assist calls in September compared to 154 in 2014. Busy.

c. Pawcatuck Statistics

d. Alarm Report

e. Special Event Schedule

f. First Responder Certificate - FYI

g. Memo Re: Officer Armstrong – Completion of Probation - FYI

h. Memo Re: Officer Emery – Probationary Period – FYI

i. Discussion on Radio System – What is Next?

Chief Stewart discussed regionalization of radio system with Waterford Police Department hosting the "brains" of the system. Two sites could be put on existing sites in Stonington. The Town would pay Waterford a portion of their \$200,000 contract. New London, Groton Town, Ledyard and Norwich are all on board. All Departments can be on the same frequencies and can communicate with each other. Westerly Police Department has a similar system. This could open up Federal grant opportunities. Vice Chair Moukawsher commented that this seems like the best, cheapest solution. Chief Stewart mentioned that he has to look at all agencies involved such as the fire departments and schools. He will be meeting with Congressman Courtney regarding a possible Federal grant.

Chief Stewart had a brief meeting with the Chair of the Board of Finance regarding the Radio System. There are funds in the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Budget for things that have caught up with our now 15 year old building such as the radio system, air conditioner and phone system.

In regard to the phone system, Captain Olson has a proposal from Carousel Industries for the cost of a new phone system in the amount of \$60,000 - \$70,000. There is \$120,000 in a technology fund that could be used for this. Chief Stewart asked the Commission if they felt it was prudent at this point to use that account for the new phone system rather than using the CIP Budget. Or he wondered if he should attend a Town meeting for a special appropriation. The phone system is 15+ years old. Commissioner Holt said to get the phone system using the technology fund. Carousel was the vendor used for the phones at Town Hall and the School Department. Vice Chair Moukawsher felt it is best to use the same vendor as Town Hall. Chief Stewart will request a bid waiver from the Board of Finance once the invoice is received. No vote needed.

Chief Stewart also noted that he got a reluctant bid waiver from the Board of Finance for the cars. The bid does not include upfitting. It is time consuming to drive to MHQ to have the upfitting done. Strobes N' More out of Westerly does the same thing. Chief Stewart will try to get a bid waiver from the Board of Finance for Strobes N' More.

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

8) Consent Agenda

a. Letter Re: YMCA Halloween Parade

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

9) Old Business

a. Bicycle Safety Signs

Commissioner Trebisacci made a motion to take no action pending POCD development. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.


b. CME Associates Inc. State Bridge Project – Route 234 @ Anguilla Brook Project *INFO SESSION*

See above.

10) Adjourn

At approximately 6:27 p.m., Commissioner Holt made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Trebisacci. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,


Harry Holt
Secretary