

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, November 8, 2018
5:00 P.M AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chairman Raymond Trebisacci & Vice Chairman Henri Gourd
Commissioners Robert O'Shaughnessy, Bob Tabor & Bob Elmer
Chief Darren Stewart & Captain Todd Olson

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

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

2. Remarks of Public

None.

3. Letter Re: Heroic Efforts of Officer Theresa Hersh

William & Adrienne Keicher, 33 Pequot Ct. Stonington, CT

Mrs. Keicher and her husband addressed the Police Commission in regard to the heroic efforts of Officer Theresa Hersh on the night of September 11, 2018. Mrs. Keicher was involved in a motor vehicle accident and due to the quick response by Officer Hersh, Mrs. Keicher was removed from the burning vehicle. Mr. Keicher read Mrs. Keicher letter to the Police Commissioners. To quote Mrs. Keicher's letter:

Officer Theresa Hersh saved me from a fiery death. She is a real hero. Her bravery at the scene of a potentially dangerous fire is to be commended. Her leadership and professional actions under adverse conditions are exemplary... The officers of the Stonington Police Department risked their lives to save me and I am truly humbled by their professionalism."

Mrs. Keicher further thanked Mr. Wilbert for calling 911, the Pawcatuck and Wequetequock Fire Departments, the Stonington Ambulance and other first responders. Chief Stewart noted that this is not the first life Officer Hersh has saved. She lives and breathes public service. Officer Hersh thanked Mrs. Keicher for her letter.

4. Election of Police Commission Officers

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to nominate Raymond Trebisacci as Chairman and Henri Gourd as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Tabor seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

Commissioner Tabor made a motion to nominate Robert O'Shaughnessy as Secretary. Commissioner Elmer seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

Chairman Trebisacci stated that this Commission has a lot to be proud of this past year. He thanked the Commissioners for their vote of confidence and for their service.

5. Planning & Zoning Applications

a. Special Use Permit Application – 215 Liberty Street, Pawcatuck *COMMENTS NEEDED*

Richard Mann, Owner of 215 Liberty St. Pawcatuck, CT

Mr. Mann gave the Police Commission a brief overview of his plans for the property at 215 Liberty Street. He means to attract middle-aged patrons and provide outstanding entertainment. Mr. Mann also plans to have an art gallery for local artists to showcase their work.

This property will seat 307 people and the parking lot will have 113 spaces. The facility will also be used for events like showers and banquets. A separate room can hold sixty to seventy guests. He does not foresee using the property as a wedding venue on Friday or Saturday nights.

He plans for Brian Busse to be the Chef and General Manager and Caswell Cooke to book the entertainment. He went on to disclose the hours of operation, the need to install surveillance cameras and outdoor lighting and informed the Police Commission about the building's sound proofing. Mr. Mann goes to P & Z for the Special Use Permit on the 20th, then he will proceed and obtain a liquor license. If all goes well, he hopes to open in January.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to pass along the following comments to Planning & Zoning; that there does not appear to be any adverse impacts to public safety or traffic at this time. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tabor. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Zoning Regulation Amendment – Accessory Dwelling Units *COMMENTS NEEDED*

The Police Commission has concerns and would like Planning & Zoning to come before this Commission to address questions before passing along any comments. Tabled.

c. Zoning Regulation Amendment – Flood Hazard Overlay District Regulations *COMMENTS NEEDED*

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6. New Business

a. Kelley's Pace Races

1. Frostbite 5 Miler *VOTE NEEDED*

2. Hare Hop 5K *VOTE NEEDED*

Jeff Anderson, Kelley's Pace, Olde Mistick Village

Mr. Anderson informed the Police Commission that the only change is that the start time will be at 9 am instead of at 8 am for both events. Captain Olson noted that he has attended both events in the past and thinks that the later start time is a good idea and may result in an increased number of participants. Chief Stewart has no issues with the event.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve the Frostbite 5 Miler and the Hare Hop 5K events as presented, subject to the requirements the administration and the Chief may deem necessary and upon proof of proper insurance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

7. Traffic

a. Letter Re: Parking at Town Dock

The Board of Police Commissioners received a letter from Jeffrey Hoadley about parking in an area that blocks access to two piers, where the Stonington Police and Stonington Harbormaster boats are tied up. Town Highway has put up two, "15 Minute" parking signs which is a reasonable solution. Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that, in order for these signs to be enforceable by the Police Department, the Police Commission will have to approve them. Captain Olson noted that the police will go down to the Town Dock and inform the fishermen that tickets will be issued if vehicles are parked longer than fifteen minutes.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve two, "15 Minute," parking signs on the twelve-foot-wide strip of land noted in the letter from Jeffrey Hoadley, Fire Chief / Fire Marshall, Stonington Borough Fire Department. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

8. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, October 4, 2018 Special Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the minutes for the Thursday, October 4, 2018 special meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tabor. All in favor, motion approved.

9. Report of the Chief of Police

a. Budget Report

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that it is still early in the fiscal year and he anticipates the budget will be back in the black around the first of the year.

b. Monthly Report

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that there were fifty-six Ill/Injured Persons calls to the four medical facilities in town. This represents 25-30% of all calls. On average, the Department responds to a medical facility twice a day. He wants the Police Commissioners to keep these numbers in mind since two huge projects, Perkins Farms and Seaport Marine, may be starting soon resulting an increase in people and an increase in the number of calls. According to Chief Stewart, it will be necessary to look at the number of full-time officers the Department will require in the future. Commissioner Tabor asked Chief Stewart if it would be beneficial to see how other communities with the same demographic handle their medical calls to which Chief Stewart noted that each town is set up differently from one another. There was some additional discussion about how calls to medical facilities are dispatched.

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that the maintenance of the radios is the only major update to the budget. The budget will need to be submitted before the December Police Commission meeting.

c. Alarm Report

d. Special Event Schedule

There was some discussion about upcoming events.

e. Radio Update

According to Chief Stewart, the new radio system is operating. They have been testing the signals with the portable radios. The State is working on testing the Harris radio. At the moment, the State, Harris and Motorola are not all on the same page.

Chief Stewart noted that Norwich will be joining the State system and that Groton Town should be functioning soon. It is important that Stonington has encryption capabilities in order to talk to Rhode Island. Commissioner O'Shaughnessy would like to wait to see if Harris can provide what this Department is looking for in regard to portable radios. Kenwood will be sending out their single band radios to test in case the Department needs to

go with Plan B. Mr. LaSaracina is looking to see if the State will loan the Department dual band portables on a temporary basis which will bridge the gap until this Department can decide on the best portable. Chief Stewart noted that Kenwood will be putting out a new, dual band comparable portable but it is unclear when this will happen. Hopefully by the December meeting more testing will be complete.

There was some discussion regarding the need for a BDA in Dean's Mill School. West Vine Street School should not have any issues with portable radio coverage due to its geographical location.

f. Motorola Payments

FYI for the Police Commissioners.

g. Letter Re: CCM Excellence Award

According to Chief Stewart, the Police Department received a check for \$1000 which went into the CIP account.

h. E-Mail Re: Grant Award – Generator

The generator has been ordered and has shipped. Any leftover money from the project will go towards updating the video system in the building.

i. CIP Budget *VOTE NEEDED*

Chief Stewart and Captain Olson went over the 2019-2029 Capital Improvement Projects for the Police Department.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to forward the CIP Budget to the Board of Finance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tabor. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that the State has deemed that every police department abides by sixteen core policies that meet the State standard. A few of the Stonington Police Department's policies will need to be slightly adjusted in order to comply.

Chief Stewart also noted that the Stonington Police Department was selected to have CALEA, a National Accreditation Organization, do a complete evaluation of our rules, regulations and policies to see what it would take for the Stonington Police Department to become a nationally accredited department.

According to Chief Stewart, there is a \$10,000 JAG grant available to the Stonington Police Department. A grant application needs to be submitted to indicate what will be purchased. The Department is looking to purchase a fuming chamber to facilitate lifting prints.

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

10. Consent Agenda

a. First Responder Certificate

b. Highway Use Permit – Veterans Day Parade

c. Memo Re: Good Job – Dispatcher Desillier, Officer Hage & Officer Saunders

d. Memo Re: Good Job – Detective Browning & Officer Sundman

e. Propertyroom.com Check

f. Letter Re: Santa's Arrival

g. Memo Re: Good Job – Officer Palmer & K-9 Odin

- h. Letter Re: Stillman Avenue Mill Brownfields Assessment Grant Application**
- i. Memo Re: Good Job – St. Michael School Annual 5K**
- j. Thank You Letter – Blessing of the Fleet 5K Race**
- k. COLLECT System Agreement**
- l. Law Enforcement Training Needs Assessment**
- m. Click-it or Ticket Wave 55 & 56 Information**
- n. Memo Re: Detective Howard – Meritorious Service Award**

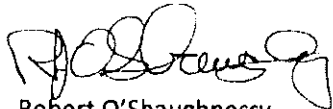
Commissioner Elmer asked Chief Stewart if the Law Enforcement Training Needs Assessment has any impact on the Department to which Chief Stewart replied that it does have an impact and Lieutenant Peckham prepares the assessment.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tabor. No discussion. All in favor, motion approved.

11. Adjourn

At 6:16 p.m., Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy, all in favor, motion approved. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert O'Shaughnessy
Secretary