

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, April 12, 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 Elmer
Chief Darren Stewart & Captain Todd Olson

Absent: Commissioner Bob Tabor

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Remarks of Public

None.

3. New Business

a. YMCA Events – Triathlon & Turkey Trot *VOTE NEEDED*

John Sutcliffe, Maintenance Director, Mystic YMCA

Mr. Sutcliffe informed the Police Commission that this is the 33rd year for the Triathlon and there are no changes from last year. The event will be held June 10th from 7a.m. to noon and they have requested five officers. The Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving from 7a.m. to 11a.m. and there are no changes from last year.

Chief Stewart has no issues with either event.

Any issues or concerns from Mason's Island residents will be addressed prior to the events according to Mr. Sutcliffe.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the Ocean Community YMCA Events – Triathlon to be held on June 10th, 2018 & Turkey Trot event to be held on November 22nd, 2018 as submitted upon proof of proper insurance and subject to the requirements the administration and the Chief may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Mystic River Day *VOTE NEEDED*

Meredith Fuller, President, Downtown Mystic Merchants

Ms. Fuller informed the Police Commission that they are looking to implement a Mystic River Day event as an extension to the Shark Swim event on July 8, 2018 from 9a.m. to 2:30p.m. Ms. Fuller noted that they have already been granted permission to use Mystic River Park.

Chief Stewart stated that this would be an event similar to the Pirate Invasion. The event will not be held on town roads or property with the exception of a fire truck parked on Cottrell St. for the touch-a-truck portion of the event. Proof of proper insurance will be necessary for the fire truck. There are no issues with having the kayaks out on the river, however, the Department will prepare to have the Police Boat in the area that day. Chief Stewart recommends that this event may need to be reevaluated in the future if issues arise this year. Vice Chairman Gourd noted that he was a little hesitant about allowing a new event, however, based on the facts that this is an addition to an existing event (Shark Swim) and it may not require police presence, he is in favor of the event.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve the Mystic River Day event to be held on Sunday, July 8th, 2018 as proposed with the consideration that this be monitored and evaluated for forthcoming years and that this year's approval be contingent upon proof of insurance and also subject to the requirements the administration and the Chief may deem necessary. (Insurance was submitted at this meeting.) Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

c. Angel Ride *VOTE NEEDED*

According to Chief Stewart, this event does not require police monitoring, however, proper insurance is required for the use of the roads.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the Angel Ride event to be held on Sunday, May 26th, 2018 as submitted, upon proper proof of insurance and subject to the requirements the administration and the Chief may deem necessary. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

d. Planning & Zoning Special Use Permit: Whalers Inn Beer & Wine Sales *COMMENTS NEEDED*

William Sweeney, Project Leader, TCORS, P.C.

Amanda Arling, General Manager, Whaler's Inn

Mr. Sweeney addressed the Police Commission about plans to have beer and wine sales in the lobby area of the Whaler's Inn exclusively for hotel guests. They will seek a liquor permit from the State of Connecticut which will limit the sales to the lobby area which includes a small outdoor deck area. Mr. Sweeney noted that the Whaler's Inn voluntarily committed to prohibit alcohol sales after 10p.m. There was further discussion about the setup of the hotel, how the lobby area is accessed by guests, and how the beer and wine will be paid for and dispensed. These sales are intended to provide an amenity to hotel guests.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to forward Whalers Inn Beer & Wine Sales Special Use Permit to allow beer and wine sales in the new lobby area to Planning & Zoning with the Police Commission's comments; that the Police Commission does not see any safety or traffic concerns so long as the limitations of the proposal remain the same and with the understanding that this service be contained within the lobby and does not include erecting outside service for alcohol, and also no sales after 10 p.m. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

e. Planning & Zoning Site Plan Application: Extrusion Drive *COMMENTS NEEDED*

Robert Valenti, Extrusion Drive, LLC

There was some discussion about the modular building that will be installed which will serve as an office for the bus depot. There will be space for an office, a meeting room, a dispatch room and a bathroom.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to forward plans for construction of a school bus depot at 40 Extrusion Drive to Planning & Zoning with the Police Commission's comments that there are no safety or traffic concerns presented by this application. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**** Agenda item 3.f. and 3.g. were considered together by the Police Commission.**

f. Planning & Zoning Site Plan & Ground Water Protection Permit Application: 189 Jerry Browne Road, Mystic (Perkins Farm) *COMMENTS NEEDED*

g. Perkins Farm Campus Development Binder *VOTE NEEDED*

Attorney Ted Ladwig, on behalf of Lattizori Development, LLC
Michael Cegan, Project Leader, Richter & Cegan, Inc.
David Sullivan, Milone & MacBroom, Traffic Engineer

Mr. Cegan recalled that the master plan for the Perkins Farm Project was approved in 2017. He informed the Police Commission that, at this time, they are looking to begin Phase One which includes constructing the secondary entrance, putting in the utilities and constructing the four-story, 121-unit apartment building.

Mr. Sullivan informed the Police Commission that all residential traffic will be on the secondary entrance since the primary entrance across from Coogan will not be built during this phase. An analysis was done and it was found that there were no changes to the traffic study. Vice Chairman Gourd voiced some concern about the secondary entrance being the only access for residents during Phase One. There was some discussion about future phases including the construction of the medical facilities and the approximate timelines. There was also discussion regarding school bus access and installing an antenna to improve radio reception within the building. Chief Stewart informed the representatives of the Perkins Farm Project that they will need to come back to this Commission for approval on signage (stop signs, residents only signs, crosswalks, etc.).

Chairman Trebisacci extended special thanks to Commissioner O'Shaughnessy and Vice Chairman Gourd for reviewing the Perkins Farm Campus Development Binder.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to pass along the Police Commission's comments to Planning and Zoning that, after review of the plans for Phase One, the Police Commission does not see many proposed changes and there are no adverse effects on traffic, parking or safety. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

4. Traffic

a. West Vine Street School Parking & Traffic Plan *VOTE NEEDED*

Alicia Dawe, Principal, West Vine Street and West Broad Street Schools

Ms. Dawe informed the Police Commission that they are requesting a completely revised bus loop and parent pick up / drop off areas for when school resumes after spring break on April 23rd. This revision is not part of the original plan but will keep things on schedule. This plan has been discussed at length with all of the staff and Ms. Dawe will be sending multiple emails to parents before the plan is

implemented. If all goes as anticipated, this revision will be in effect from Monday, April 23rd 2018 until April 2019.

Chief Stewart noted that a stop sign will need to be at the exit to the parent pick up / drop off area and at the bus loop as well as no parking signs. There will be 100 feet of no parking on West Vine Street to help with sightlines. Gilbane will also be moving part of their fencing to help with sightlines. There was some further discussion about fencing and about the safety of all involved.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve the requested plan to install stop signs and no parking signs as recommended by the administration with the cooperation of the school administration and Gilbane. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Letter Re: Safety Concerns on Local Roads

Tabled until further request that this item be placed back on the agenda.

c. Town Engineer – Intersection of Mistuxet @ Cove Road Review *TABLED TO MAY MEETING*

d. Agreements: DOT Projects in Stonington

According to Chief Stewart, the State of Connecticut will be installing centerline rumble strips on Route 1 between Collins Road and the Quiambaug Fire Department as part of the Route 1 paving project. Chief Stewart was adamant that all existing crosswalks in the repaving project area remain in place.

Chief Stewart also noted that the State of Connecticut will be looking to start the pedestrian signing project regarding crosswalks and signage near the Denison Homestead area and at West Vine Street School.

e. E-Mail Re: Speed Limit Sign

Dave Packer, Resident 785 Pequot Trail Stonington, CT

Mr. Packer informed the Police Commission that the new speed limit sign blocks his view while he exits his driveway. He already clears the area to improve his sightlines and he requests that the sign be moved north of Fenner Lane. Chief Stewart informed Mr. Packer that the State of Connecticut was responsible for installing the speed limit sign.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion that the Police Commission recommends the administration contact the State of Connecticut in order to move the speed limit sign as requested. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

f. E-Mail Re: Crosswalks

Jason Vincent, Town of Stonington, Director of Planning

Mr. Vincent presented the Police Commission with several ideas in order to make crosswalks more visible on Clara Drive. Clara Drive is scheduled for repaving and Mr. Vincent thought it would be a good time to possibly implement a different technique or textural application to the crosswalks. There was discussion about the different techniques and possible concerns that the designs may distract drivers. Two main points of discussion were about whether or not the MUTC allows for this type of application to the

crosswalks and that the town would not incur any liability at these crosswalks due to the fact that they are different from standard crosswalks.

There was also discussion about making the entrance route to the Mystic Aquarium more visible since many people think this is just an access route to I95.

Chief Stewart and Mr. Vincent will discuss further.

No Action.

g. Traffic Enforcement Reports – Mason’s Island Road, Cove Road

FYI for the Police Commission about traffic enforcement.

5. Old Business

a. Chaplain Program & Policy *VOTE NEEDED*

Father Tom Hoar, Chaplain for Stonington Police Department

According to Chief Stewart, the Chaplain Program has been in effect for about 11 years. Recently, there has been a resurgence in the program and the Westerly Pawcatuck Clergy Association has become very active in wanting to help emergency personnel. Reverend Ray Jones of Lighthouse Baptist hosted a Chaplain Training Seminar. Two Stonington officers, Officer Hersh and Officer Brummund attended the training.

Father Tom has put together the qualifications necessary to become a Chaplain. According to Chief Stewart, the Department wants to increase the number of Chaplains from one to three and has reviewed the policy and procedures on how to select a Chaplain. The Chaplain Program has proven its worth. Commissioner O’Shaughnessy agrees and voiced his enthusiasm for the program.

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve the Chaplain Chapter in the Police Department policy and also the qualification criteria set forth in the documents attached to that policy. Motion seconded by Commissioner O’Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

b. Stop Sign – Trumbull Avenue @ North Water Street *ACTION ITEM*

Chairman Trebisacci stated that there was a long discussion at the March Police Commissioners meeting about this area. The State of Connecticut does not approve of installing a stop sign on North Water Street at Trumbull Ave. It was suggested that a stop sign be installed on Cutler Street at the curve as you turn onto North Water Street. Not all Commissioners agree to altering the current layout.

No consensus on this item.

6. Approval of Minutes from Thursday, March 8, 2018 Regular Meeting *VOTE NEEDED*

Vice Chairman Gourd noted that on page 4 under item 7. Report of the Chief of Police a. Budget Report, that “wayward system” should be replaced with “air conditioning system.”

Commissioner O’Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the minutes for the Thursday, March 8, 2018 regular meeting as amended. Motion seconded by Vice Chairman Gourd. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**** Agenda item 8 was voted on before the Police Commission voted on agenda item 7.**

7. Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2018 Special Meeting of Boards of Finance, Selectmen, and Police Commission *VOTE NEEDED FOR POLICE COMMISSION PORTION*

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 7, 2018 Special Meeting of Board of Finance, Selectmen, and Police Commission as clarified by the addition of the Sources and Uses of Funds Worksheet. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

8. Addition of Sources and Uses of Funds Worksheet for Financial Clarification to February 7, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes *VOTE NEEDED*

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the Addition of Sources and Uses of Funds Worksheet for Financial Clarification to the February 7, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

9. Report of the Chief of Police

**** Chief Stewart at this time skipped ahead to agenda item 9.f. as a courtesy to Mr. Richard LaSaracina. Once the discussion on the radios was concluded, Chief Stewart resumed the Report of the Chief of Police.**

a. Budget Report

Everything looks good according to Chief Stewart.

b. Monthly Report

Chief Stewart stated that nothing is out of line.

c. Alarm Report

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that there will be more of an effort with following up on unregistered alarms.

d. Special Event Schedule

e. Officer Ryan Rodgers – End of Probation *VOTED NEEDED*

Vice Chairman Gourd made a motion to end probation for Officer Ryan Rodgers. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

f. Radio Project Update

1. Mobile Radio Bid Results- *VOTE NEEDED TO POTENTIALLY RECOMMEND MOBILE RADIO PURCHASE TO BOARD OF SELECTMAN*

According to Chief Stewart, there were two vendors that submitted bids, however, one vendor did not meet the specifications required. Marcus Communications met all the requirements.

Commissioner O'Shaughnessy made a motion to approve the bid as submitted by Marcus Communications for the purchase of the mobile radios. Motion seconded by Commissioner Elmer. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

2. Dispatch Furniture State Bid Contract for Watson Furniture *VOTED NEEDED TO POTENTIALLY RECOMMEND BID WAIVER TO BOARD OF FINANCE FOR PURCHASE OF DISPATCH FURNITURE

Chief Stewart informed the Police Commission that Watson furniture is the vendor of choice. They have provided a customized plan and have come in lower than what the Department has budgeted for this expense. According to Mr. LaSaracina, we would be purchasing the furniture direct from Watson, therefore, eliminating the middle man. He has worked with Watson in the past has found that they have a quality product and they also stand behind their product. Westerly Police have also purchased Watson furniture and they are happy with the product. Mr. LaSaracina noted that dispatch furniture is a specialized market and Watson's furniture is very commercialized and intended for around the clock use.

Chief Stewart commented that Watson is on the State of Connecticut's bid list and that their quote is within our budget so he respectfully requests that the Police Commission recommend a bid waiver to the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Elmer made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance a bid waiver for the purchase of dispatch furniture. Motion seconded by Commissioner O'Shaughnessy. No discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

3. Update of Project Progress – Kick Off Meeting, Etc.

Mr. LaSaracina updated the Police Commission on the radio tower located in the back lot at the Police Department. Parts will need to be added to the existing tower. Mr. LaSaracina has contacted SBA (the company that manages the tower) and will be entering the parts list to then be submitted to an engineer for review. Mr. LaSaracina believes that the tower will only be at 35% capacity after adding all the new equipment. Chief Stewart authorized Mr. LaSaracina to have SBA complete the structural analysis. There was discussion about the new system's compatibility with Rhode Island's system.

Mr. LaSaracina also discussed the new technologies with the portable radios, licensing and the number and types of portable radios the Department will need.

4. Invoice for First Installment of Motorola Contract

A copy of this invoice was included in the Police Commissioner's packet.

Chief Stewart reminded the Police Commission that Monday, May 5th is the Law Enforcement Memorial Dinner and retired CT State Police Lieutenant Paul Vance will be the guest speaker. Also, DARE Graduation will be held at the Mystic Aquarium.

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

10. Consent Agenda

- a. Letter Re: Mystic Memorial Day Parade**
- b. Memo Re: Dispatcher Tim Desillier – 30 Year Anniversary**
- c. Letter Re: Donahue Race**

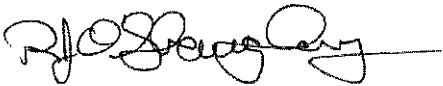
- d. Letter Re: 9th Annual Tour of Lights Bike for Thought
- e. Letter Re: March for Our Lives
- f. Letters Re: 61st Annual Mystic Outdoor Art Festival
- g. Memo Re: Job Well Done
- h. SEAT Bus Study
- i. Memo Re: Officer Ryan Rodgers – End of Probation
- j. NIBRS Summary Data Report
- k. Letter Re: Our Lady of Fatima Processions
- l. Letter Re: Thank You – Stuff-A-Cruiser Event
- m. Stillman Avenue Bridge Repairs
- n. E-Mail Re: Thank You – March for Our Lives
- o. Stonington Sounds Event
- p. Memo Re: Transfer of Firearms

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

9. Adjourn

At 7:39 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