

**Board of Police Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 20, 2021
5:30 P.M.– Zoom Video Conference**

Present: Board Members: Robert Welsh, Michael Mikolay, Paul Chello
Carrie Federici, Edward Huguenel
Department Members: Chief Warren Hyatt Jr.
Deputy Chief Massey
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board
Public: John Jagielski

Call to order.

Commissioner Welsh called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

1. Approval of prior meeting minutes

- 1.1 Approval of the regular meeting minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners of December 16, 2020.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Mikolay, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2020 as amended item 3.1.4 Commission correction Commissioner.

In Favor: Welsh, Mikolay, Chello, Federici, Huguenel

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

- 1.2 Approved of the special meeting minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners of December 28, 2020

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to accept the special meeting minutes of December 28, 2020 as presented.

In Favor: Welsh, Mikolay, Chello, Federici, Huguenel

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

2. Public Petition/Commentary

The Board of Police Commissioners welcomed John Jagielski of 110 Round Hill Road to the meeting and opened the floor to him for discussion.

Mr. Jagielski requested that the traffic light on Route 77 at Lake Quonnipaug be extinguished during winter months. He shared the history of the installation of the traffic light on Route 77 and explained that it was installed for pedestrian crossing safety, during beach season at the lake and reported that there is no traffic management during the winter months. He also said that the light remains green and is using electricity unnecessarily and it is disruptive to residents across the lake at night.

Commissioner Mikolay responded that this is a new traffic concern. He said that the beach is owned by the Town but the traffic light is on a state road. It was agreed that this traffic light was once a flashing amber light. Chief Hyatt suggested that he would discuss this concern with the Town Engineer and the State Department of Transportation. It was agreed.

Mr. Jagielski asked if the red and blue lights on the town police vehicles could remain on at all times. Discussion took place.

Mr. Jagielski took the floor and discussed traffic speed on Maple Hill Road between Route 80 and Maupas Road. Discussion took place. Commissioner Mikolay stated that the request is noted and will be added to the traffic enforcement list.

Mr. Jagielski discussed right and left curve signs on Hoop Pole Road. He indicated the signs are in poor condition and suggested they be replaced. Discussion took place. Chief Hyatt agreed that he will research the curve sign concerns on Hoop Pole Road.

3. Traffic

Signage/Enforcement

No exhibits.

Chairman Welsh opened the floor to Chief Hyatt for verbal traffic updates.

Chief Hyatt updated the Board of Police Commissioners on the progress on Trolley Road. The approved signs have been erected. Deputy Chief Massey, in conversation with the Shellfish Commission, learned that the area on the back side of the cul de sac is owned and controlled by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). A new kiosk has been installed by the DEEP. Discussion took place. It was agreed that the Deputy Chief will contact the DEEP officer to discuss further. Discussion took place regarding the speed limit request on Trolley Road.

Commissioner Huguenel reported on Route 77 paving and rumble sticks. Discussion took place regarding this ongoing state project.

The Deputy Chief stated that Mr. Joel Helander contacted him regarding the intersection of Sachems Head, Colonial Road, Vineyard Point. Mr. Helander reported that signs were improperly directed at this intersection. Discussion took place. The Chief will contact the Town Engineer and the Deputy Chief will follow up with Public Works.

Runs/Rides

None.

4. Committee Reports

4.1 Facilities/Equipment

Chief Hyatt reported on a recent drain blockage at Headquarters. He stated that the Facilities Department took care of the issue.

4.2 Personnel

4.2.1 Officer Sadiev-resignation

Officer Sadiev resigned to move to the Fairfield Police Department.

Chief Hyatt reported on recruitment. He stated that the lateral hire is moving forward in the process and the dispatcher position is close to being hired.

Commissioner Chello asked about the second lateral hire. Chief Hyatt stated that the candidate voluntarily removed himself from the process.

4.3 Communications

4.3.1 Thank you note received from Janine and Thomas Terribile

Chairman Welsh read from a thank you note received from Janine and Tom Terribile on the loss of his mother.

4.3.2 Thank you note from Chief Hyatt to the Board of Police Commissioners

Chairman Welsh read from a thank you note received from Chief Hyatt to the Commissioners for meals.

Chairman Welsh thanked Commissioner Chello for organizing the holiday meals, on New Year's Eve, for all the shifts of the department.

4.3.3 Correspondence received from the Connecticut Cancer Foundation

Chairman Welsh read from correspondence received from Jane G. Ellis, Executive Director of the Connecticut Cancer Foundation thanking the Department for their participation in "No Shave November" and the

donation.

4.3.4 Correspondence from the Burrow Family.

Chairman Welsh read from a heartfelt letter received to the department by the Burrow Family who provided meals for all the shifts one day during the holiday season.

4.3.5 Note from a sixth-grade class at Baldwin Middle School.

Chairman Welsh read from a note received from a sixth-grade class at Baldwin Middle School for assisting with drop off and pickup times during COVID 19. Chief Hyatt reported that this correspondence particularly thanked Officer Martone who monitors Baldwin's traffic duty on a daily basis.

4.4 Budget/Finance

4.4.1 Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget

Chairman Welsh reported that Chief Hyatt and Deputy Chief Massey presented the 2021/2022 budget via Zoom to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. The Chairman commended Chief Hyatt on his first presentation of the budget as Chief of Police. Chairman Welsh stated that Chief Hyatt did an excellent job on the budget and the presentation. Discussion took place including expenses of COVID 19 and the Accountability Act.

Chief Hyatt reported the current budget is good order. He spoke on COVID 19 expenses and possible reimbursements from FEMA.

Commissioner Huguenel asked for an explanation on education expenses. Chief Hyatt reviewed the process. Education checks are received annually in December by uniformed personnel who meet the qualifications. This education incentive is based on contractual scales depending on the level of higher education. Chairman Welsh noted a nominal increase in the stipends with the new police contract.

5. Monthly Reports

Monthly Reports were reviewed.

Commissioner Chello inquired about the Activity Summary Report by Vehicle regarding fuel usage. Chief Hyatt reviewed vehicle procedures.

Commissioner Huguenel asked a question regarding a woodpecker at the range. Chief Hyatt reported this issue has been humanely resolved.

Chairman Welsh asked the Chief to speak about the Uniform Committee. The Chief stated that the Deputy Chief is chairing the committee. Deputy Chief Massey responded that patrol officers have requested the consideration of different options for the uniform. The committee has recently met with a vendor and there are options that may be more cost effective, durable and comfortable for officers on patrol. Chairman Welsh asked about the stripes on the slacks and discussion took place. The formal uniform will remain for pomp and circumstance and formal events. The committee will report to the Chief with their recommendations.

Commissioner Huguenel asked for an update on Covid vaccines for the Police Department. Deputy Chief Massey has organized the vaccinations and the first round has been completed for department members who wanted to participate. He reported that he has been working closely with the Health Department and Fire Department. A clinic has been setup for the department on January 30th.

Chief Hyatt reported that he met with Mr. Rick Maynard, Parks and Recreation Director. Mr. Maynard is working on setting up vaccine clinics at the Community Center. Chief Hyatt spoke about parking at the Community Center. A first clinic has been setup at the center for January 25th at 10 AM. The CDC website remains the location to schedule online appointments.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

None.

8. Police Personnel Comments

None.

9. Executive Session

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Mikolay, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to move out of Public Session and into Executive Session inviting the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police and excusing the Clerk of the Board for the purposes of discussing personnel matters at 6:25 PM.

In Favor: Welsh, Mikolay, Chello, Federici, Huguenel

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

The Clerk of the Board left the meeting at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Krauchick
Clerk of the Board of Police Commissioners

The Board of Police Commissioners came out of Executive Session at 6:47 PM.

No motions were made, no action was taken in Executive Session.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM.

Executive Session submitted by: Chief Hyatt

Lucy Krauchick, Executive Session Typist