

**Board of Police Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
5:30 P.M. – Zoom Video Conference**

Present: Board Members: Robert Welsh, Michael Mikolay, Carrie Federici,
Edward Huguenel, Paul Chello
Department Members: Chief Warren Hyatt Jr.
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board
Public: Ms. Sue Robbins, Resident

Call to order.

1. Approval of prior meeting minutes

1.1 Approval of the regular meeting minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners of August 19, 2020.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay and seconded by Commissioner Federici, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on August 19, 2020 as presented.

*In Favor: Welsh, Mikolay, Chello, Federici, Huguenel
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

1.2 Approval of the special meeting minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners of August 25, 2020

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay and seconded by Commissioner Huguenel, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to accept the special meeting minutes of August 25, 2020 as presented.

*In Favor: Welsh, Mikolay, Chello, Federici, Huguenel
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

2. Public Petition/Commentary

Sue Robbins was accepted into the meeting. Commissioner Mikolay indicated that the traffic item she entered the room to discuss was next on the Agenda and the floor would be opened at that time. It was agreed.

3. Traffic

Signage/Enforcement

3.1. Mulberry Point-Speeding and sign request-2020T6.

Chairman Welsh welcomed Sue Robbins to the meeting and opened the floor.

Sue Robbins discussed her request for the addition of a stop sign on the corner of Charles Street and Decatur Avenue on the south corner (next to the stone wall). She presented many reasons why a stop sign would be beneficial including the safety of pedestrians and to reduce vehicle speed.

Several Commissioners and Chief Hyatt stated that they drove up to Mulberry Point to observe Charles Street and Decatur Avenue. Discussion took place and recommendations were made. It was agreed that cutting down foliage in the area would help with the sightlines. It was agreed that stop signs are not signs to regulate speed.

Chief Hyatt and Commissioner Mikolay recommended that the Town Engineer should be contacted for her recommendations. It was agreed. Chief Hyatt will contact Janice Plaziak and report back to the Board of Police Commissioners. Commissioner Mikolay suggested this item be tabled until next month for further research.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay, and seconded by Commissioner Huguenel, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to table the request for an addition of a stop sign on Charles Street and Decatur Avenue until further research can be conducted.

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Chief Hyatt spoke about the Guilford Lakes area and the previous concerns with parking. Chief Hyatt and Tom Fillion, Public Works Department have assessed the situation. Public Works will add more process to the area and a fog line will be put in along the waterside.

3.2 Update of Old Sachems Head Road (2020T5) verbal.

Chief Hyatt reported that he researched the request for additional signage on Old Sachems Head Road and Arrowhead Road and has assessed the intersection. Commissioner Mikolay offered visuals of the topography of the intersection. Discussion took place on possible signs to add to the intersection. It was discussed that brush at corner of the intersection may be causing sightline concerns and the resident will be contacted.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Mikolay and seconded by Commissioner Federici, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to add a speed limit sign on Old Sachems Head Road west of Arrowhead Road and to authorize additional signage if deemed necessary and to have the Public Works Department cut down the brush to improve sightlines with the permission of the resident.

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Runs/Rides

None.

4. Committee Reports

4.1 Facilities/Equipment

Chief Hyatt reported that he met with the Facilities Committee and reviewed their responsibilities.

Chief Hyatt reviewed the new automatic fingerprint system which has been received and the project is moving forward.

4.2 Personnel

Chief Hyatt reported that Officer Dillon and Officer McPhillips were recent recipients of the MADD Award (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). The Board of Police Commissioners congratulated Officer Dillon and Officer McPhillips.

Chief Hyatt reported that Officer Dillon and Officer Mastriano will be receiving Meritorious Awards from the Police Commissioners Association of Connecticut on September 30, 2020. Officer Dillon and Officer Mastriano were recognized and acknowledged by the Department with Life Saving Awards. The Board of Police Commissioners congratulated the Officers on these prestigious awards.

Chairman Welsh asked for an update on Dispatcher hiring. Chief Hyatt reported that the process has been completed and the Dispatcher will begin employment on September 21, 2020.

4.3 Communications

4.3.1 Thank you note received from Sally M

Chairman Welsh read from a thank you note received acknowledging officers who assisted in helping her with a lost dog.

4.3.2 Thank you note with special thanks to Officer Williams

Chairman Welsh acknowledged a thank you note received to the department with special thanks to Officer Williams for his compassion during a family matter.

4.3.3 Communications from Ms. Suesserman thanking Officer Michaelson and Officer White.

Chairman Welsh acknowledged a thank you note and electronic correspondence received thanking Officer Michaelson and Officer White for assisting Ms. Suesserman during Storm Isaias with a generator issue.

4.3.4 Communication from Stephanie and Nick Kane for car seat installations.

Chairman Welsh acknowledged a thank you note from the Kane's for car seat installations and thanking Sergeant Dane Lawrence for installing them.

4.3.5 Communication of appreciation from Mr. Johnson regarding Officer Fitzpatrick.

Chairman Welsh acknowledged electronic correspondence received by Lieutenant Provencher thanking Officer Fitzpatrick for his professionalism.

4.3.6 Thank you note received from GREP

Chairman Welsh acknowledged a thank you note for assistance with the GREP's (Guilford Racial Equality Project) Drive-In Movie event.

Discussion took place about the diverse range of duties that the uniformed personnel of the department provide on a daily basis.

4.4 Budget/Finance

4.4.1 Budget Report

Chief Hyatt announced the budget reports were not ready from the Finance Department due to COVID 19 and workload.

5. Monthly Reports

Monthly Reports were reviewed. Workload reports were discussed. All reports are remain in order.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

Chief Hyatt announced that the National Night Out event will be held on October 6, 2020 beginning at 4:00 PM on the Guilford Green. Due to COVID 19, the event was postponed from the original date. Officer Gingras is heading up the event. The Health Department has conveyed approval and recommendations which will be followed.

Chief Hyatt reported that the Annual Gun Buy Back Program will take place on September 26, 2020 from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM at Police Headquarters. This program is in conjunction with the Song Strong organization. This program is also considered a gun safety program. Gun locks and gun safes will be available.

Chairman Welsh spoke about school openings and traffic flow. Chief Hyatt reported that with a few modifications, particularly at Adams School and Guilford High School, everything is going smoothly. Chairman Welsh stated that the loop at Guilford High School for entering and exiting was well planned. Traffic devices that have been setup are helping with traffic flow.

7.1 Board of Police Commissioners proposed regular meeting schedule of 2021

Discussion took place regarding meeting times. It was agreed no changes will be made.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Huguenel, the Board of Police Commissioners voted to approve the regular meeting schedule for 2021 as presented.

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

8. Police Personnel Comments

None.

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

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

The Clerk of the Board thanked the Board of Police Commissioners and left the room at 6:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board

The Board of Police Commissioners moved 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.

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

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Typist: Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the board