

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
33 LAUREL STREET
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06405-3644
MINUTES OF MEETING: November 12, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner John Sousoulas
Commissioner Patty Austin
Commissioner Janice Heggie-Margolis
Commissioner Christine Ciociola

Commissioners Wiel-Wilkins and Nash were absent. Also present was Chief Mulhern and Deputy Chief Alves.

The meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Sousoulas.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Commissioner Austin to approve the minutes from October 15, 2024.
Seconded by Commissioner Wiel-Wilkins. Vote unanimous.

Report of the Chief:

Chief Mulhern provided copies of the Monthly Statistical Report. Personnel overview: one recruit Matthew Siwik will be graduating this Friday from the New Britain Academy. He will start his field training program. Two officers still have a couple of months left in the Meriden Academy. One current vacancy, it has been posted.

The union contract has been heard by the Public Services Committee of the RTM and will now go to the full RTM for approval. The contract changes consisted of some language clean up; changing some stuff that was outdated; limiting some comp time to strike a balance that will be beneficial to the department; increase in vacation time; and the biggest change is schedule changes: the schedule will change to a 5 day on, 2 off, followed by a 5 day on 3 off schedule; days off are based on a seniority bid schedule and wage increases.

Officers are participating with No Shave November fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. November 16 officers will be participating in "Give the Cop the Bird" at Big Y to benefit the Food Council.

Building Renovation Update:

All bids are in and are under scope review. Downes will be presenting the GMP to the Public Building Commission at November meeting. Project date kick off has not been established yet.

Traffic Committee:

Request for Traffic Enforcement on Montoya Circle and Commercial Parkway. The Traffic Committee has recommended that the location is added to the rotation of traffic enforcement.

Update on Handicapped Parking Issues. The committee met with the Engineering Department and identified three possible locations. The Engineering Department has also agreed to look at increasing the number of handicapped spaces during the Main Street reconstruction project.

Update on Speed Issues on Kirkham Street

Update on Line of Sight issues on Eastwood and Leetes Island Road. The Traffic Committee is recommending that the Engineering Department look and correspond with the property owner concerning cutting back of a tree.

Request to move speed sign on Indian Neck Avenue to the area at Block Island Road or the Elks Club. The committee worked with the DOT to determine the placement of this sign. The Traffic Committee recommends no change.

Update on Line of Sight issues at the entrance to the Ponds Condominium. Met with the Engineering Department. The department came up with a list of recommendations. The Committee recommends that the Engineering Department and send a letter to the homeowner.

Request for a stop sign at Damascus and Totoket Road. No action.

Addition to the agenda – Pone Orchard – Requesting Digital Speed monitor. Captain. Watrous has identified a location. Lt. Ramey will follow up on additional items. The Traffic Committee recommends that Lt Ramey follow up with the town.

Under citizen comments during the Traffic Committee representatives from Stony Creek requesting help with speeding. The Traffic Committee agreed to request to move a no parking sign that is too far past the bridge.

Report of the Chair – none

Citizens Comments – Ken Engleman addressed the board concerning his non-profit Community Volunteers Unite; “Be Kind” signs that he has been putting out; swastikas that have popped up in Short Beach and incident that occurred at Common Grounds.

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Motion made by Commissioner Austin to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Heggie-MUSI Consulting Group argolis. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trista Milici, Clerk