

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 17, 2009

1. Chairman Bottinick called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:06 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

L. Mayfield
S. Smith
A. Bottinick
R. Roper

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson

ALTERNATES:

W. Bertotti
F. Barnes
D. Branco

ABSENT:

J. San Angelo
Mayor Bronko

Public: 2
Staff: 1
Press: 0

(Mayor Bronko and Chief Edson were at the Board of Finance meeting in the next room. Chief Edson entered the meeting at 7:35 p.m.)

2. Chairman Bottinick led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:

Chairman Bottinick appointed D. Branco and A. Barnes as voting members in the absence of Mayor Bronko and J. San Angelo respectively.

4. A motion by L. Mayfield and seconded by S. Smith to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on February 17, 2009.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joe DaSilva, 14 Hemlock Road, discussed a parking problem on his street concerning his neighbor at 12 Hemlock Road. Given that the area is located in a cul-de-sac, the Fire Chief will be consulted. Chairman Bottinick will ask Chief Edson to make an announcement at roll call to watch the area.

6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE MODIFICATION TO POND VIEW ESTATES LOT #4 TO MODIFY DRIVEWAY:

W. Bertotti, subcommittee for Land Use, had reviewed the request by Antonio Pereira to modify his original plans for Pond View Estates with respect to the driveway on Lot #4 and assured the Commission the change will not have an adverse effect.

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by S. Smith to approve the recommendation of the Land Use Subcommittee and allow the change of the driveway on Lot #4.

Discussion: Mr. Pereira noted the lot being discussed was actually Lot #5. A copy of the minutes will be forwarded to the Land Use Department.

Vote: Unanimous

7. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

8. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

It was agreed to table this item until Chief Edson returns to the meeting.

9. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

11. OPEN ITEMS:

a. Less Lethal Technology: Chairman Bottinick stressed the issue of allowing Chief Edson to guide and direct his department without micro-management from the Commission. He polled the Commissioners on this subject and all were in agreement to permit Chief Edson to operate his department as he deemed necessary. They proposed a resolution to concur with Chief Edson's decision for the implementation of "less than lethal" technology with the purchase of tasers.

12. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

S. Smith, Alarm Violations Subcommittee, suggested a more frequent billing system for alarm violation notices. He said he would bring this up for discussion at the appeals meeting to be held in the near future. He will invite Chief Edson and Captain Scully.

W. Bertotti, Traffic Subcommittee, said there will be a meeting in the next few weeks to attempt to resolve the parking issues on North Main Street between Ana Donte's restaurant and S&S Transmission.

Chief Edson entered the meeting.

13. CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A. Barnes and S. Smith questioned the status of the officers on the Personnel List to determine if any will be returning soon. S. Smith also asked why traffic enforcement numbers had fluctuated greatly in November. Chief Edson explained the personnel issue and noted that "Click It or Ticket" occurred in November. He asked the Commissioners to consider the Municipal Ticket Program he sent to Chairman Bottinick which could be drafted into an ordinance. This will be listed as an "Open Item" at the next Regular Meeting. Chief Edson asked the Commission for approval to re-install a traffic mirror at Field Street/Webb Road. They agreed to the Chief's request. Chief Edson was questioned on the lateral transfer Dustin Levy. He reported some issues were still unresolved and there are concerns regarding the physical agility requirements.

A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by D. Branco to accept the Chief's Monthly Reports.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

14. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

F. Barnes wanted to know when line painting will resume in order installing a turn lane at the traffic signal on Rubber Avenue/Andrew Avenue. Chief Edson explained that temperature plays a factor and he is doubtful that there is enough room to install an additional lane. W. Bertotti said he will pursue this issue on Traffic Subcommittee.

L. Mayfield expressed her concerns regarding subcommittee members not being included in meetings and activities relevant to certain issues. She asked Chairman Bottinick to ensure that all members are notified when a subcommittee chairperson is planning a meeting or taking action.

R. Roper asked if a new hiring list was available. Chief Edson stated that the application process had recently closed; however, the town's administrators had requested open positions remain unfilled until the new fiscal year.

- S. Smith congratulated Detective Ron Blanchard on his most recent internet predator arrest. It was noted this brings his total to 39 on-line offenders.
15. A motion by S. Smith and seconded by A. Barnes at 7:52 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at Town Hall, Naugatuck, CT.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous.

ATTEST:

Andrew Bottinick, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission

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