

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 18, 2011

1. Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:01 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

Steve Smith
Ralph Roper
Linda Mayfield
James San Angelo
Bruce Whitaker

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Deputy Chief Josh Bernegger
Burgess Laurie Jackson
Jeannette Deschesnes, H.R. Director
Jim Goggin

ALTERNATES:

Walter Bertotti
Stephanie Savoy

ABSENT:

Mayor Mezzo
Andy Barnes
Domingos Branco

Public: 1

Staff: 0

Press: 0

(B. Whitaker arrived at 7:07 p.m. but was not seated until 7:26 p.m.)

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

3. **ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:**

Chairman Smith appointed W. Bertotti and S. Savoy as voting members in the absence of Mayor Mezzo and B. Whitaker respectively.

4. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on September 20, 2011.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by W. Bertotti to nominate Steve Smith as Chairman of the Police Commission.

Discussion: S. Smith agreed to accept the nomination. (The motion was announced three times.)

Vote:	<u>FOR:</u>	<u>AGAINST:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
	L. Mayfield		S. Smith
	J. San Angelo		
	R. Roper		
	W. Bertotti		
	S. Savoy		

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by W. Bertotti to nominate Linda Mayfield as Vice Chairman of the Police Commission.

Discussion: L. Mayfield accepted the nomination. (The motion was announced three times.)

Vote:	<u>FOR:</u>	<u>AGAINST:</u>	<u>ABSTAIN:</u>
	S. Smith		L. Mayfield
	J. San Angelo		
	R. Roper		
	W. Bertotti		
	S. Savoy		

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by S. Savoy to nominate Ralph Roper as Secretary of the Police Commission.

Discussion: R. Roper accepted the nomination. (The motion was announced three times.)

Vote: Unanimous

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE
7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REQUEST FROM JIM GOGGIN FOR THE PARTIAL CLOSING OF CURTISS STREET ON NOVEMBER 12, 2011 FROM NOON TO 6:00 P.M. FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLD CORNER CAFÉ:

Jim Goggin and Eugene Ferreira, owner of the Old Corner Café, presented their plan for the celebration and asked to have a portion of Curtiss Street closed.

A motion by L. Mayfield and seconded by R. Roper to allow the partial closing of Curtiss Street on November 12, 2011 for the celebration.

Discussion: J. San Angelo expressed his concerns with the Police Commission endorsing an event at a drinking establishment. Discussion took place regarding

various safety measures, the support of the event, the necessary steps that must be taken to legally conduct the celebration and Chief Edson's recommendation to contact Borough Counsel. Deputy Chief Bernegger explained some of the traffic issues that could be of potential danger to residents in the area. It was decided to amend the motion.

A motion by L. Mayfield and seconded by S. Savoy to allow the partial closing of Curtiss Court from the corner to the driveway on November 12, 2011 with the following stipulations:

1. A liquor permit must be obtained from the state in order to serve and/or bring alcohol outside of the bar.
2. The owner must provide a certificate of insurance.
3. The owner must provide a letter of indemnification to the Borough.
4. There must be adequate notice to the residents in the neighborhoods nearby.
5. The owner must hire the necessary number of private duty police officers for the event as deemed necessary by Chief Edson.

Discussion: Jim Goggin said he would take the necessary steps to begin the process. Chief Edson said he was doubtful if there was ample time to obtain the liquor permit from the state.

Vote: Unanimous

8. UNION BUSINESS: NONE
9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GRIEVANCE #2011-03:

It was agreed to table this item until the next Regular Meeting due to the absence of Union representation.

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ORAL INTERVIEWS FOR POLICE CANDIDATES:

Chairman Smith reported that Human Resource Director Deschenes provided a list of police candidates based on the completion of the testing process. Chief Edson said there could be eight openings at the department due to the early retirement agreement recently approved by the town. He discussed some of the details of the agreement which included how officers must contact the Chief with their intentions and how many officers may leave at a given time. Chairman Smith encouraged the Commission to expedite the interview process in order to begin the background investigations for the candidates. There are seats reserved at the Police Academy for January which would require that all backgrounds be completed prior to that time. It was agreed to interview the top fifteen candidates from the list of fifty. The Special Meetings for Police Commissioners' interviews

will take place on October 27, 2011, November 1st & 3rd, 2011 all beginning at 6:15 p.m. Five candidates will be brought in each night. Chairman Smith asked Commissioners to make certain if they are planning on participating in the interviews to be certain they can attend all three of the Special Meetings in order to ensure continuity. HR Director Deschesnes presented the interview questions to the Commissioners and it was agreed that tentative ranking will take place after each meeting with the final placements being decided after the last meeting. The interview questions were collected from the Commissioners.

11. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to accept the Chief's monthly reports.

Discussion: Chief Edson commented on some of the impacts the early retirement agreement will have on the department. He further reported the benefit held for Danielle Parady was extremely successful. L. Mayfield questioned an overtime assignment.

Vote: Unanimous

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

Lt. Stanley Masternak, New Britain Police Department, thanked Sergeant Laura Harrison for her participation at the "Cadet Police Academy".

The Eagle Riders of Naugatuck thanked the department for their escort and support through town on their way to the Veterans' Hospital in West Haven.

Chares & Theresa Wasoka, owners of American Vintage Furniture, thanked the officers who assisted their customers on August 2, 2011 after a water main break in front of their store. The officers on the scene were Detectives Ray Walsh and Marcus Jacoboski, Sergeant Brian Newman and Patrolman Robert O'Donnell.

Captain Jeremiah Scully notified the Commission of his intent to attend college to obtain his Master's Degree.

Nancy Sasso Janis, Adam Janis and Christian Janis thanked Officer Peter Bosco for his professionalism and patience after a burglary took place at their home.

Lieutenant Mark Samsel, Bloomfield Police Department, thanked Officer Paul Markette for his assistance in a burglary investigation through CTIC which resulted in information leading to several residential burglaries and recovered property.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Burgess Laurie Jackson commended Chief Edson on the large surplus he had remaining in the 2010/2011 budget. The Commissioners applauded Chief Edson for his management of the department. Chairman Smith said that Chief Edson has saved the town between \$300,000 and \$600,000 in overtime costs over the last five years. He stated that with his contract due to be renewed, Chief Edson should receive a raise for his outstanding efforts. Burgess Jackson asked if anything can be done about the traffic signal on Rte. 63 near Bowman Drive due to the length of time for certain cycles. Deputy Chief Bernegger said he would contact the DOT to look into the problem. Burgess Jackson continued with a request to monitor speeding on Candee Road near Kingswood Drive. Deputy Chief Bernegger said the department has new speed monitoring equipment which will be set up in the area. It gives detailed information of traffic statistics. She thanked the Commission on behalf of the Borough Board for installing signs by Legion Field.

14. OPEN ITEMS: NONE

15. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

a. Traffic Subcommittee: Discussion/possible action regarding requests for handicapped parking sign at 15 Bradley Street and 21 Pond Street.

Burgess Jackson reported that she had brought the issue of handicapped parking before the Board of Mayor and Burgesses as requested by the Police Commission. Mayor Mezzo asked to have the Commission continue handling the requests.

A motion by W. Bertotti and seconded by J. San Angelo to deny the requests for installation of handicapped signs at 15 Bradley Street and 21 Pond Street.

Discussion: Chairman Smith thanked Deputy Chief Bernegger and W. Bertotti for all of their work regarding handicapped parking research.

Vote: Unanimous

16. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

L. Mayfield asked Chief Edson about the status of Officer Parady. He reported that she has received a new drug. He said there may be additional fundraising in the future. J. San Angelo asked if the Commission can have any input to help her get paid. Chief Edson stated that Mayor Mezzo has allowed the donation of sick time for Officer Parady. Only the Mayor can approve any payments to employees. He asked everyone to keep her in their prayers.

Chairman Smith asked Deputy Chief Bernegger about the new radar equipment. He learned it has been used in various locations such as Millville Avenue, Field

Street, Maple Hill Road to name a few. It is usually kept in one location for a week to ensure ample data for a thorough traffic study.

17. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by B. Whitaker at 8:25 p.m. p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at the Naugatuck Police Department, Naugatuck, CT.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:

Steven Smith, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission

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