

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
September 17, 2013

1. Vice Chairman Mayfield called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:02 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

Linda Mayfield
James San Angelo
Ralph Roper

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Attorney Cesar Sousa

ALTERNATES:

Stephanie Savoy
Andy Barnes
Walter Bertotti

ABSENT:

Mayor Mezzo
Bruce Whitaker
Steve Smith

Staff: 0
Press: 0
Public: 2

2. Vice Chairman Mayfield led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:

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

4. A motion by S. Savoy and seconded by J. San Angelo to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on August 20, 2013.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Barbara and Robert Pyshna, 272 Jones Road, presented a petition signed by their neighbors asking for help with the speeding problem on Jones Road and possibly the installation of a "No Thru Trucks" sign. Chief Edson said he will increase enforcement in the area. He further stated that trucks cannot be prohibited from conducting interstate commerce. Vice Chairman Mayfield commented that this

traffic problem exists throughout Naugatuck and presents safety issues for residents.

6. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

7. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

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

Discussion: Chief Edson said there had been a computer problem so he was not able to produce an overtime report but the cost for August was approximately \$60,000. He reported the Detective Division has been very busy with narcotics work. He also informed the Commission that a lateral transfer will begin work on Monday and a new recruit will enter the academy in October. J. San Angelo commented that Naugatuck did not have any murders per the Chief's reports.

Vote: Unanimous

8. CORRESPONDENCE:

Charles Sherwood, SCCJA, thanked Deputy Chief Bernegger for serving as a panelist on an oral board for position of lieutenant at the Yale Police Department.

Deb Smith wrote a letter to thank Officer Luis Martinez and Officer Alexia Castro for the kindness and consideration shown to her daughter during an incident.

Karen Petersen, Howard Whittemore Library, thanked Chief Edson for sending a police presence to an event at the library.

Gail Zehnder Laterza thanked Sergeant Peter Bosco, Officer Andre Moutela and Officer Anthony Mistretta for their assistance during a family incident.

All correspondence will be placed into the officers' personnel files.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

10. OPEN ITEMS:

a. Towing Policy: Attorney Cesar Sousa presented a draft of the new proposed towing policy with recommendations and revisions from Town Counsel. The towing policy for the Newington Police Department was used as a guide. Input from the Special Meeting held on September 9, 2013 was also included. The new policy will be presented at the next Regular Meeting on October 15, 2013 and voted into use. The towing companies will be notified once the policy has been accepted by the Commission.

11. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

a. Discussion/possible action regarding 38 Cherry Street Wholesale Auto Sales: W. Bertotti reported his findings after reviewing the property. He did not have any traffic concerns and recommended acceptance of the proposal.

A motion by W. Bertotti and seconded by J. San Angelo to approve the Land Use application submitted for 38 Cherry Street Wholesale Auto Sales.

Discussion: W. Bertotti reported there will only be five vehicles for sale inside the facility. He also had several conversations with Attorney Michael McVerry who is representing the business owner.

Vote: Unanimous

12. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

A. Barnes said the annual festival of Sao Paio has declined in attendance over the past few years.

W. Bertotti commended Officer Alexia Castro for her assistance and professional behavior while on private duty at a construction area on Spring Street. He appreciated the extra attention she provided for his traffic safety.

R. Roper asked Chief Edson how the new school year has been for the School Resource Officers. Chief Edson reported that all is well with the exception of a grievance filed by the union regarding these positions. R. Roper asked him how the newly hired officers were doing. Chief Edson replied that things are going well and has received positive feedback. He said he is still facing a challenge keeping new officers. Vice Chairman Mayfield asked if the state can prevent officers from leaving departments in their first few years. Chief Edson reported that state legislature had recently removed the two year stipulation placed on new officers to remain at the department where they were originally hired. He urged the Commissioners to ask their local legislative representatives to change the law.

13. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by S. Savoy at 7:50 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at the Naugatuck Police Department.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:

L. Mayfield, Vice Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission

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