

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
October 21, 2014

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
Stephanie Savoy

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Deputy Chief Joshua Bernegger

ALTERNATES:

Jay Kuczenski

ABSENT:

Mayor Mezzo
James San Angelo
Linda Mayfield
Ron Blanchard
Andy Barnes

Staff: 0
Press: 0
Public: 4

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

3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:

Chairman Smith appointed J. Kuczenski as a voting member in the absence of Mayor Mezzo.

4. A motion by J. Kuczenski and seconded by R. Roper to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on September 16, 2014.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman Smith stated he had decided to relinquish his role as Chairman of the Commission after serving in this position for six years. He said he thoroughly enjoyed his tenure as Chairman but was ready to pass the position onto someone else. He asked to continue his involvement as Vice Chairman of the Commission.

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by J. Kuczenski to nominate Stephanie Savoy as Chairman of the Police Commission.

Discussion: S. Savoy accepted the nomination.

Vote: Unanimous

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by J. Kuczenski to nominate Steve Smith as Vice Chairman of the Police Commission.

Discussion: S. Smith accepted the nomination.

Vote: Unanimous

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by J. Kuczenski to nominate Linda Mayfeld as Secretary of the Police Commission.

Discussion: S. Smith said through an earlier conversation with L. Mayfield she was agreeable to this position.

Vote: Unanimous

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Laura Chandler, 11 Myrtle Avenue, questioned the Commission regarding a call for service she made on October 10, 2014 at approximately 9:30 p.m. The advice she received from the dispatcher was of concern to her. Chief Edson and Deputy Chief Bernegger assured Ms. Chandler they would investigate her complaint and report the outcome to her.

A motion by S. Smith and seconded by R. Roper to **move Agenda Item 12a. to Item 6a. and to add to the Agenda Land Use application Thurston Energy as Item 6a.**

Discussion: Due to the owner of 174 Meadow Street being present, the agenda item was moved forward to allow Mr. Healy the opportunity to present his request earlier in the meeting.

Vote: Unanimous

6A. SUBCOMMITTEE FOR LAND USE:

1. Application for 174 Meadow Street – Ken Healy appeared before the Commission with a Special Permit application to convert the office building into apartments.

A motion by S. Smith and seconded by J. Kuczenski to approve the Special Permit application for 174 Meadow Street.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

2. Application for Thurston Energy, 410 Rubber Avenue, construction of a propane facility. This project is designed to house the propane equipment already in place.

A motion by S. Smith and seconded by R. Roper to approve the Special Permit application for Thurston Energy, 410 Rubber Avenue.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

7. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

8. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

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

Discussion: Chief Edson discussed the excellent work by the Detective Division in solving three armed robberies. Two of the cases were solved in twenty-four hours and the third was completed in twelve hours. He is very pleased with the results. Chief Edson further commented on the state of the 2014/2015 budget. A 9% reduction in the Police Department budget has occurred due to the referendums. An open police position will most likely not get filled as well as postponing certain training, increased motor vehicle expenses and the surmounting overtime incurred due to understaffing. He asked the Commission for its support during the budget process. Deputy Chief Bernegger invited the Commissioners to come to the department to learn about the operations and budget. R. Roper stated that his military experience helps him appreciate the dilemma faced by management to provide the utmost in public safety while adhering to stricter budgetary guidelines.

Vote: Unanimous

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

Sergeant Michael Fisher, Basic Training Program Director, CT Cadet Police Academy, thanked Officer Colin McAllister for his devotion to the Basic Training Program which is a one week paramilitary boot camp for Cadets.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE
11. OPEN ITEMS: NONE
12. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES: NONE
13. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

J. Kuczenski asked Chief Edson to contact him if he can provide any assistance to the department.

S. Smith congratulated the department for its success in solving crimes. He complimented Lt. Bryan Cammarata for his attention to the department's Facebook page. He also congratulated S. Savoy as the new Chairman and thanked the Commission for their support and effort over the past years.

R. Roper suggested an info paper in order for the Commissioners to have the knowledge needed to support the Police Department's budget to the public. He also commented on the heroic actions of Officer Andre Moutela during a recent incident.

Chairman Savoy thanked S. Smith and R. Roper for their service to the Police Commission. She expressed her disappointment with the Burgess liaisons to the Commission in their public sound bites regarding funding the Police Department. Since they were not present this evening, she plans on discussing this matter at the next meeting.

14. A motion by J. Kuczenski and seconded by R. Roper at 7:39 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at the Naugatuck Police Department.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:

Stephanie Savoy, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission