

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 14, 2011  
5:00 PM AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Chair Susette Tibus and Vice-Chair Scott Bates  
Commissioners Dr. Stephen Coan, Mel Olsson and Frank Pucci  
Chief Darren Stewart and Captain Jerry Desmond

**1) Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Tibus called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

**2) Remarks of Visitors**

Road Construction - Aquarion Water

Mistuxet Avenue at Jerry Browne Road, Mystic, CT

Michael Hiltz, P.E., Aquarion Water

Requesting approval for traffic plans to repair damaged culvert from last year's flood event. Concerned about potential damage and will pay for repairs.

Christopher Granatini, P.E., Tighe & Bond

Presented work zone plans. Scheduled to break ground approximately August 8<sup>th</sup>, and finish phase one before the start of school.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Bates to approve Aquarion Water's traffic pattern plans for the upgrade of their facility as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Coan and approved.

"Stop" signs at Lathrop Avenue and Palmer Street, Pawcatuck, CT

Aymi Bennhoff, Pawcatuck, CT and Michelle Hamilton, Pawcatuck, CT

In attendance to request installation of two stop signs at Lathrop Avenue and Palmer Street in Pawcatuck, CT. Concerned with safety of pedestrians, particularly children, due to speeding in the area.

Michelle Hamilton stated she is also concerned about the lack of sidewalks on Lathrop Avenue.

Aymi Bennhoff asked if even one stop sign could be approved by the Commission.

Chief Stewart explained that studies have proved that stop signs are not solutions to speeding, and that they also cause increased noise as vehicles stop and accelerate. Chief Stewart suggested placement of "drive like your children live here" signage and a radar trailer, as well as increased enforcement in the area. Chief Stewart also requested that Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Bennhoff keep in contact with him and the Captain, and notify them of particular times of the day that speeding occurs, so enforcement can be placed accordingly.

### 3) Traffic

- a. E-Mail Re: Road Construction - Aquarion Water, Mistuxet Ave. @ Jerry Browne, Mystic – See Remarks of Visitors
- b. Letter Re: Stop Signs – Lathrop Ave. & Palmer St., Pawcatuck – See Remarks of Visitors
- c. Coogan Blvd, Crosswalk Signs  
Chair Tibus recused herself at this time and turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Bates
  - Chief Stewart sent a request to the Town attorney to review the MOU regarding the purchase of the flashing yield sign. The donation needs to go to the Board of Selectmen so it can be accepted, after that the plan can proceed.Vice-Chair Bates turned the meeting back over to Chair Tibus
- d. E-Mail Re: Broadway Ext., Mystic
- e. E-Mail Re: Line Painting & Catch Basin Cleaning
- f. Stonington Rocks – Close Parking Lot
  - Chief Stewart assigned four officers for the event, who will be paid through the Human Services Department Recreation Division.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to allow the closure of the municipal parking lot behind Citizens Bank, as well as allow Chief Stewart the authority to close Mechanic Street between Route One and Palmer Street if necessary. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Bates and approved.

### 4) Approval of Minutes for the June 9, 2011 Regular Meeting

Chair Tibus recused herself at this time and turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Bates

Revision to the June 9, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes:

Item 2, Remarks of Visitors, (in regard to Item 3i) should read:

Crosswalk – Mystic Aquarium

Chair Tibus recused herself at this time. Presiding over discussion was Vice-Chair Scott Bates via cell phone.

Thomas Thompson, Mystic Aquarium

The Aquarium is requesting permission to add signage and cones at the site of the crosswalk connecting Coogan Boulevard to the overflow lot, to help enhance safety at the site (as in past summers). Temporary signage/cones would be placed on site from approximately 6:30/7:00am to 6:30/7:00pm (dusk). Signage will include "Stop – Pedestrian" sandwich board signs and cones to alert oncoming drivers. Currently, drivers are distracted by traffic turning into the Aquarium or nursing home, not realizing an active crosswalk is right around the corner, and there have been several near misses at this site. Mr. Thompson also requested to place a solar powered device that flashes on both sides of the roadway, and provided informational sheets to the Commission. The device will be same size and color as existing signs, and will include push buttons, which will cause the signs to light up on each side.

**4) Approval of Minutes for the June 9, 2011 Regular Meeting (cont'd)**

Mr. Thompson suggested a collaborative effort between the Aquarium and the Town, where the Aquarium will purchase and donate to the Town, and the Town will install & maintain. Required batteries have 1 year warrantee, and cost approximately \$30-40 to replace. Mr. Thompson stated this project will really enhance the safety of the walkway, and allow the Town to participate with the Aquarium in a "green" project.

Vice-Chair Bates asked for a motion on the matter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsson to approve temporary, portable signage at the crosswalk connecting Coogan Boulevard to the Aquarium overflow lot, and to draft an MOU to be signed by Chief Stewart, the Town and the Aquarium to enter into a partnership regarding the solar powered device, with the option to continue the partnership in the future. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci and approved.

Upon the above revisions, a motion was made by Commissioner Olsson to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2011 Regular Meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci and approved.

Vice-Chair Bates turned the meeting back over to Chair Tibus.

**5) New Business**

None

**6) Old Business**

None

**7) Report of the Chief of Police**

- a. Monthly Report
- b. Alarm Report
- c. Update: Proposed Fireworks Event, Fall 2011
- d. Special Events List
- e. IMC/PowerPhone Dispatch Program Update
- f. Hiring Process
- g. Flyer: 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Charles W. Morgan
- h. New supervisors in place and doing well
- i. Chris Murray, scheduled to graduate August 2<sup>nd</sup>, and may receive a marksmanship award
- j. Lt. Ray Curioso retirement party 6:30pm, Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at Mystic Aquarium
- k. New car is in
- l. Propertyroom.com on Board of Selectmen agenda
- m. LINKS update
- n. Route 184 @ Taugwonk; request to State for traffic light
- o. Wrecker policy update
- p. Great Hope Springs movie
  - A motion was made by Vice-Chair Bates to provide Chief Stewart the ability to authorize street closings and alteration of traffic patterns in the interest of public safety during the filming of Great Hope Springs
- q. Surplus Items
- r. ACO Facility Update

A motion was made by Commissioner Olsson to approve the Report of the Chief. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci and approved.

**8) Correspondence**

- a. Letter Re: Sergio Franchi Concert
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Coan to approve the Sergio Franchi Concert, provided all necessary insurance and paperwork is in place. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Bates and approved

**9) Consent Agenda**


- a. Memo Re: OSET Contingency 911 Plan
- b. Memo Re: Good Job - Officers Paige & Burge, Sgt. Peckham
  - Chair Tibus and the Commission commended all officers for their hard work
- c. Memo Re: Positive Feedback – Officer Howard
- d. Memo Re: Good Job – Lt. Beebe
- e. Memo Re: Good Job – Enders Island Incident
- f. Memo Re: Good Job - Serious Motor Vehicle Accident
- g. Memo Re: Thank You – Torch Run
- h. Letter Re: St. Michael School 5K Road Race
- i. Letter Re: Bike MS Charity Bike Ride
- j. Highway Use Permit: Bike MS Charity Bike Ride
- k. Letter Re: Antenna Tower
- l. Certifications and Assurances For Highway Safety Subgrantees
- m. Articles Re: “Drive Like Your Kids Live Here”
- n. Letter Re: Thank You – Stonington Garden Club
- o. Letters Re: “Music at the Lighthouse” Event
- p. Inventory: Vests Donated to State of Virginia
- q. Letter Re: Thank You – Mystic Memorial Day Parade
- r. Letter Re: Medal of Valor Nomination
- s. Salary Survey
- t. E-Mail Re: Reading
- u. CTI Brochure
- v. E-Mail Re: Mystic Flag Pole
- w. E-Mail Re: Thank You - 4th of July
- x. Memo Re: Thank You – Garden Tour
- y. Letter Re: CSO Michaels’ Scholarship Ceremony
- z. Memo Re: Officer Capalbo – Job Well Done

A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Olsson and approved.

**10) Adjourn**

A motion was made by Commissioner Coan to adjourn. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Bates and approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank Pucci  
Secretary