

**STONINGTON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 11, 2013
5:00 PM AT THE STONINGTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Vice-Chair Mel Olsson
Commissioners Harry Holt, Patrick Moukawsher and Frank Pucci
Chief Darren Stewart and Captain Jerry Desmond
Absent: Chair Scott Bates

1) Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair Olsson called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

2) Remarks of Visitors

Aaron Green, 18 Richmond Lane, Mystic

Re: Dirt Bike Issue, Richmond Lane, Mystic (originally brought before Commission April 11, 2013)

Mr. Green stated that he is in attendance to recap results regarding the noise issue on Richmond Lane, and the requested noise ordinance. Mr. Green stated that he first wants to comment regarding Chair Bates statement of decision made at the May 9th Board of Police Commissioners meeting, particularly Chair Bates statement that "this would be creating a change in the law for the sole purpose of pursuing an enforcement action against a particular individual". Mr. Green stated that he hopes to remind the Commission that there is a petition that a group of people signed; the petition was not for the sole purpose of pursuing action against an individual, but for the purpose of solving a problem that is effecting 30 or more people; it should not be viewed as targeting one individual, but looking after the interests of a whole neighborhood.

Mr. Green further stated that on the May 22nd Board of Selectmen meeting, First Selectman Haberek proposed putting together a task force to deal with the noise issue, however at the following June 12th Board of Selectmen meeting Mr. Haberek reversed that course, and stated that the Board of Selectmen would send a letter to the Police Commission, requesting that the Police Commission put together an ordinance. Mr. Green stated that he then pointed out to First Selectman Haberek that the Police Commission already deferred to the Board of Selectmen on that matter, but he still is not sure where the matter stands. Mr. Green stated that there has been a bit of back and forth, asked the Commission if there has been any contact from the Board of Selectmen.

2) Remarks of Visitors (cont'd)

Dirt Bike Issue, Richmond Lane, Mystic (cont'd)

Vice-Chair Olsson clarified that Chair Bates was looking at the bigger picture, more than just the ramifications of the law, when he gave his statement of decision on May 9th; Vice-Chair Olsson stated that Chair Bates believed First Selectman Haberek had a good idea when he proposed the creation of a task force, as the Chair, and the entire Commission, believe this is a matter to be decided by, and voted on by, the Town.

Captain Desmond confirmed Vice-Chair Olsson's statement, that this is a Town wide issue, and that it would be unfair to further discuss the Chair Bates comments until he is in attendance.

Mr. Green stated that he agrees that there was a suggestion of a task force, but was surprised that the Police Commission would not be aware that the decision was reversed at the June Board of Selectmen meeting.

Commissioner Moukawsher clarified that the Commission was aware of it, but cannot comment as to why the Board of Selectmen reversed their decision. Commissioner Moukawsher stated that he hopes Mr. Green understands that the Police Commission is not disregarding his problem, however the Commission has heard nothing further from the Board of Selectmen, a Board of Police Commissioners meeting is not the proper venue to discuss this matter, and he is unsure as to why the Board of Selectmen referred it back to the Police Commission.

Mr. Green stated that he has faith in both the Police Commission and the Board of Selectmen, however would like to see the matter addressed; he is not sure why a task force was proposed, and then that decision was reversed, but the back and forth can be frustrating.

Commissioner Moukawsher stated there is also concern that there will be a conflict, due to the fact Police Commission would be making a law and also enforcing it.

Vice-Chair Olsson assured Mr. Green that he will address the issue with Chair Bates.

Commission Pucci stated that he believes discussion should be postponed until Chair Bates is in attendance.

Antonio Pereira, Pawcatuck, CT

Route One Speed Limits

Asked the Commission why the speed limit for Route One heading toward Pawcatuck is 50 miles per hour, but only 40 miles per hour when heading toward Mystic.

Chief Stewart explained that since Route One is a State road, the State makes the decision, however suggested the difference may be due to varying traffic congestion when exiting/entering Route One from different directions.

3) Correspondence

a. Letter Re: River Glow

Attorney Richard Panciera – Greater Westerly Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce
In attendance to address any concerns and answer questions regarding the River
Glow event. Atty. Panciera stated that the plan is the same as last year.

- A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to approve the River Glow event on August 10, 2013, provided all necessary paperwork & insurance is in place, and that the appropriate number of Officers are hired for the event. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

b. E-Mail & Paperwork Re: Blessing of the Fleet

- A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to approve the Blessing of the Fleet event, provided all necessary paperwork & insurance is in place, and that any additional requirements made by Chief Stewart are met. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci, all in favor, motion approved.

4) Traffic

5) Approval of Minutes for the June 13, 2013 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2013 Regular Meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci, all in favor, motion approved.

6) Approval of Minutes for the May 8, 2013 Joint Meeting with the Board of Finance

A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2013 Joint Special Meeting with the Board of Finance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

7) New Business

Records Department hours

8) Old Business

Boat renderings

9) Report of the Chief of Police

- a. Budget Report
- b. Monthly Report
- c. Alarm Report
- d. Pawcatuck Statistics
- e. Special Event Schedule
- f. E-Mail Re: OSET
- g. Sergio Franchi Concert
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Moukawsher to grant the Chief the authority to make a decision regarding the Sergio Franchi concert scheduled for August 24, 2013. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.
- h. Non-Union personnel COLA of 2.25%
- i. Lt Beebe Letter
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to accept the letter submitted by Lieutenant Beebe and to allow him to return to the rank of Sergeant in a timely manner set by the Chief. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.
- j. Peddler Issue

A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to approve the Report of the Chief. Motion seconded by Commissioner Moukawsher, all in favor, motion approved.

10) Consent Agenda

- a. Letter Re: Holy Ghost Processions
- b. Letter Re: Issues with Peddler
- c. Letters Re: Good Job – Detective Floyd
- d. Letter Re: St. Michael School 5K Run / Walk
- e. Letter Re: Salt Marsh Opera "Music at the Lighthouse"
- f. Email Re: Village Fair

A motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

11) Executive Session

At 5:41PM Commissioner Moukawsher made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the position of Patrol Officer. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pucci, all in favor, motion approved.

At 8:48PM a motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to come out of executive session, seconded by Commissioner Holt-all in favor.

At 8:50PM a motion was made by Commissioner Pucci to offer a conditional offer of probationary employment to Michael Johnson and Phillip Carrier that will include polygraph, psychological testing, physical testing, physical agility and further academy requirements; furthermore, Jesse Barry will be placed on a short-term list for consideration of any police officer short-term openings. Remaining two candidates will not be considered for employment. Seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

At 8:52PM a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Pucci, seconded by Commissioner Holt, all in favor, motion approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank Pucci". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Frank Pucci, Secretary