

Town of Guilford
Board of Police Commissioners
Minutes
Wednesday, June 15, 2016
5:30 PM
Police Headquarters, Community Room

Approved

Present: Commissioners: Mike Mikolay, Martha Carlson, Jeffrey Hedberg, Fred Trotta
Department Members: Chief Hutchinson, Deputy Chief Dunn,
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board
Lieutenant Robert Robinson
Officer Timothy McCain
Public: Family and Friends of Lieutenant Robert Robinson
Family of Officer Timothy McCain
Carolyn Fernandez, Resident
Diane Fencil, Resident
Steve McGuire, Resident
Ben and Cathy Kuropat, Residents
Kimberly Schmid, Resident
Mike Neisel, Resident

Call to order.

Commissioner Mikolay called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

1. Approval of Board of Police Commissioners meeting minutes.

1.1. Approval of the Board of Police Commissioners meeting minutes of Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Mikolay, the Commission voted to approve the meeting minutes of Wednesday, May 18, 2016 as presented.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson

Opposed: None

Abstained: Hedberg

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to move Items 4.1.1. Formal Swearing In Ceremony of Officer Timothy McCain and 4.1.2. Retirement of Lieutenant Robinson up the Agenda to accommodate the audience.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to add to the Agenda under Traffic Item 3.8. Children at Play sign request.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to approve to add to the Agenda under Traffic Item 3.9. Christopher Lane request for road closure and 3.10. Whitfield Bike Lanes (as previously tabled).

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to approve to add to the Agenda under Communications Item 4.2.3 Thank you to Officer Hudson from Mr. Bell.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

4.1.1. Formal Swearing In Ceremony of Officer Timothy McCain.

Chairman Mikolay addressed Officer Timothy McCain and formally swore him in as a Guilford Police Department Patrol Officer in front of his family, the Board of Police Commissioners, department members and the audience. He welcomed Officer McCain to the department and a formal photo opportunity took place.

4.1.2. Retirement of Lieutenant Robert Robinson.

Chief Hutchinson took the floor and addressed the audience thanking Lieutenant Robert Robinson for his 37 years of service to the Guilford Police Department. He thanked Lieutenant Robinson for his dedication, hard work and integrity. He personally thanked him for his friendship and thanked Lieutenant Robinson's wife and daughter.

Commissioner Carlson thanked Lieutenant Robinson for his years of service and personally thanked him for a job ably done. She acknowledged his extraordinary career he had with the department and her appreciation. Chairman Mikolay thanked Lieutenant Robinson for his knowledge, leadership, hard work and commitment to service and his presence will be greatly missed. Commissioner Hedberg commended the Lieutenant on his work and his accomplishment moving up the ranks. It was agreed that Lieutenant Robinson leaves behind a legacy of success and is wished well in his

retirement.

Lieutenant Robinson took the floor and thanked the members of the Board of Police Commissioners, the Administrative staff and his family.

At this time a brief recess took place for the purposes of refreshments to acknowledge the swearing in of Officer McCain, Lieutenant Robinson's retirement and the retirement of Commissioner Trotta from the Board of Police Commission.

2. Public Petition/Commentary.

None.

Abstained: None

3. Traffic.

3.1. Stop sign request Old Sachems Head Road and Trolley Road.

Commissioner Hedberg reported that he and Chief Hutchinson drove to the area to review the traffic request for Old Sachems Road and Trolley Road and recommendations were made.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to deny the request for a stop sign at Old Sachems Head Road and Trolley Road.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

3.2. The Arc of Meriden-Wallingford-Charity motorcycle bike ride request Sunday, August 14, 2016.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to approve the Arc of Meriden-Wallingford charity motorcycle ride on Sunday, August 14, 2016.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

3.3. Traffic request regarding Whitfield Street and Water Street.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed a traffic concern that he received regarding Whitfield Street and Water Street. He reported that the department and the Commission have no authority since these are state roadways. Therefore, he has forward the concerns to the correct authority at the State of Connecticut.

3.4. FYI from State. Re: Parking of Whitfield Street.

No discussion, presented as informational to the Board of Police Commissioners.

3.5. Summer Breeze ride request.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to approve the charity cycling ride Summer Breeze Ride for Autism on Sunday, July 17, 2016.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

3.6. Rockland Road request from the Regional Water Authority.

The Chief of Police reviewed correspondence received to the Board of Police Commissioners regarding Rockland Road from the Regional Water Authority. Chief Hutchinson summarized the concerns of the Water Authority stating it was indicated that vehicles are rutting up Rockland Road and County Road and trespassing on the Water Authority property. The Chief stated that the Water Authority has proposed the installation of a gate as a solution.

Chief Hutchinson has forwarded the correspondence to Town Counsel for review. Discussion followed.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Hedberg, and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, the Commission voted to table Item 3.6. Rockland Road request for the Regional Water Authority.

3.7. Old Pent Road stop sign and speed limit.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed a recent case on Old Pent Road and discussion followed.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Hedberg, and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, the Commission voted to deny the request for road sign changes and/or additions on Old Pent Road.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

3.8. Request for Children at Play sign on Old Barn Lane.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed the request for signage on Old Barn Lane and discussion followed. The Chief of Police had previously contacted the resident to inform her that children playing in road is unsafe and children at play signs are not state approved signs.

3.9. Christopher Lane Block Party.

Carolyn Fernandez and Diane Fencil took the floor and requested a road closure on Christopher Lane

for a neighborhood block party on July 30, 2016. It was discussed and agreed that the Chief of Police will contact the Fire Chief to discuss an alternative to a road closure in consideration of emergency vehicle access. It was discussed that children playing in a road is unsafe.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Hedberg, and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, the Commission voted not to approve a road closure on Christopher Lane on July 30, 2016 and the Chief of Police will look for alternative option with the Fire Chief.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg, Trotta

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Chief Hutchinson will contact Carolyn Fernandez and Diane Fencil after he meets with the Fire Chief.

3.10. Whitfield Street bike lane request.

Kimberly Schmid and Mike Neisel took the floor. They discussed bike lanes on Whitfield Street and stated they were members of the Shoreline Greenway Trail. Ms. Schmid spoke about the Shoreline Greenway Trail and bike safety. She handed out visuals to the Board of Police Commissioners as she presented the idea of “shared arrow” signs. She reported that she and Mr. Neisel have been working with Mr. Portley, Town Engineer regarding the bike lanes and the shared arrow signs. Mr. Neisel spoke about the benefits of safe biking.

Discussion took place with a question and answer session. The Board of Police Commissioners agreed to continue to review this request.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Trotta, the Commission voted to table Item 3.10 Whitfield Street bike lane request.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg, Trotta

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

4. Committee Reports

4.1. Personnel.

4.1.1. Formal Swearing In Ceremony-Officer Timothy McCain.

As motioned and approved, this Item moved up the Agenda.

4.1.2. Retirement-Lieutenant Robert Robinson.

As motioned and approved, this Item moved up the Agenda.

4.2. Communications

4.2.1. Thank you note received from Municipal Animal Control Officer Weady to the Board of Police Commissioners.

Municipal Animal Control Officer Weady sent a note thanking the Board of Police Commissioners for their kindness.

4.2.2. Thank you note from Mr. and Mrs. Amarante regarding Municipal Animal Control Officer Borrelli.

Correspondence received from Mrs. and Mrs. Amarante thanking Officer Borrelli for her assistance with an animal control issue.

4.2.3. Thank you note received from Mr. Bell thanking Officer Hudson.

Correspondence was received from Mr. Bell thanking Officer Hudson for a job well done.

4.3. Budget/Finance.

4.3.1. Budget Report 2015/2016.

Chief Hutchinson stated that the budget remains in good shape. He reviewed the encumbrances and the budget line items.

4.3.2. Budget Report 2016/2017.

Chairman Mikolay reported that the budget passed. Discussion followed regarding adjustments for 2016/2017.

5. Monthly Reports.

Chief Hutchinson reported on the two recruits at POST Academy. He reported that the process continues with the two new hires who have conditional officers and they look good so far. One is an entry level hire and the other is a lateral hire.

Chairman Mikolay thanked the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police for prescreening the applicants and thanked them for a job well done.

6. Old Business.

6.1. Peddling and Soliciting Ordinance.

The Board of Police Commissioners asked Ben and Cathy Kuropat and Steve McGuire to give the Chief of Police the opportunity to review the background of the peddling and soliciting ordinance and after that the Board of Police Commissioners would open the floor for discussion. It was agreed.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed the Peddling and Soliciting Ordinance. He reviewed the history and background leading up to present time.

Cathy Kuropat and Ben Kuropat took the floor to discuss the matter. Steve McGuire offered discussion.

After lengthy discussion, the Board of Police Commissioners thanked Cathy Kuropat and Ben Kuropat for attending the meeting and presenting their discussion. The Board of Police Commissioners thanked Steve McGuire for attending the meeting and presenting his discussion.

It was agreed by the Board of Police Commissioners that this is a continuing process and no action would be taken at this time.

7. New Business.

7.1. Retirement of Commissioner Fred Trotta from the Board of Police Commissioners.

Chairman Mikolay thanked Commissioner Trotta for his service and his institutional knowledge. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Trotta as an invaluable asset to the Commission. Commissioner Carlson concurred and stated that Commissioner Trotta is irreplaceable and he will be missed. Commissioner Hedberg thanked Commissioner Trotta for his support and his tremendous help and insight and agreed that he will be missed by all.

The Chief of Police thanked Commissioner Trotta for his service. He will miss his advice and counsel. Chief Hutchinson thanked Commissioner Trotta for his service to the department and the Town of Guilford.

Commissioner Trotta thanked everyone for their sentiments.

8. Police Comments.

None.

9. Executive Session.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to move out of Public Session and into Executive Session at 7:05 PM inviting the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police and excusing the Clerk of the Board.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Krauchick

Lucy Krauchick
Clerk of the Board

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Trotta, and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, the Commission voted to approve to move out of Executive Session and back into Public Session at 7:26 PM.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

No motions were made, no actions was taken in Executive Session.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Hedberg, the Commission voted to approve to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Hedberg

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Typist of Executive Session
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board