

Town of Guilford
Board of Police Commissioners
Minutes
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
5:30 P.M.
Community Room – Police Headquarters

Approved

Present:

Commissioners: Chairman Mikolay
Commissioner Carlson
Commissioner Chello
Commissioner Frey

Department Members: Chief Hutchinson
Deputy Chief Hyatt
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board

Public: E. Fitch Bullard and H. B. Bullard
Jaime Zahorian
Steve Redes, Nutmeg Twisters
Friends and Family of Officers attending Swearing-In Ceremony

Chairman Mikolay called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.

1. Approval of Board of Police Commissioners meeting minutes.

1.1. Approval of the Board of Police Commissioners meeting minutes of Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Frey, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Commission voted to approve the meeting minutes of Wednesday, February 21, 2018 as presented.

All in favor: Mikolay, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: Carlson

2. Public Petition/Commentary.

None.

3. Traffic.

3.1. Signage/Enforcement.

3.1.1. 2018T1-River Street

Commissioner Mikolay welcomed Mr. E. Fitch Bullard and Mr. H. B. Bullard. He opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Bullard addressed concerns regarding his driveway, the blind view due to road topography, accident history and speeding. Mr. Bullard asked for the installation of a “blind driveway” sign and enforcement.

Chief Hutchinson thanked both residents for their input. He offered a brief history on engineering improvements made to River Street by the Town. He reviewed concerns that were brought to the Commissioners last year regarding speeding. The Chief reported the speed limit was reduced to 25 mph on River Street last year.

Discussion took place and it was agreed a blind driveway sign is not an option. Mr. Bullard will install a safety mirror to improve sightlines. Chief Hutchinson agreed to increase enforcement and the electronic speed device will be setup on River Street (when available). In addition, the Chief of Police will review the speed limit signs with the Traffic Authority to ensure they are properly spaced.

Chairman Mikolay thanked the Bullard’s. They left the room at 5:45 PM.

3.1.2. 2018T2-Seaview Terrace.

Chairman Mikolay welcomed Mr. Zahorian and opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Zahorian requested permission to drive a low speed vehicle from Seaview Terrace onto Whitfield Street. He reported that a low speed vehicle is not a recognized vehicle by the State of Connecticut for registration. He has researched other states that recognize and register these vehicles and he has experience driving them. He indicated he thought that the Traffic Authority could move to approve a low speed vehicle on town roads. Mr. Zahorian described the construction and standards of a low speed vehicle.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed the history of requests for golf carts on town roads and the history behind the Traffic Authority denying the requests. He agreed that Mr. Zahorian’s suggestions were good ones but he stated that the Department follows the State’s rules and regulations of roadways. It was agreed that this is also a consistency concern and they could not move to recommend the request.

Chairman Mikolay spoke about liability concerns and safety issues. Commissioner Carlson reviewed the history on requests for golf carts and stated she would like to do some more research regarding low speed vehicles on roads.

It was agreed that this item could be tabled. Mr. Zahorian will continue his research and report back to the Board of Police Commissioners. The Board of Police Commissioners will research this request also.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to table Seaview Terrace low speed vehicle operation on town roads with the consideration of consistency and safety.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None
Abstained: None

3.1.3. 2018T3-U.S. Route 1, Village Walk (Concept Park).

Chief Hutchinson reviewed this request and sent it to the State of Connecticut since U. S. Route 1 is a state road. The Board of Police Commissioners concur with the Chief of Police that the State of Connecticut is the authority.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Commission voted to add under Traffic 3.1. Signage/Enforcement Item 3.1.4. Soundview Road.

Chairman Mikolay welcomed Mr. Redes and opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Redes reviewed the “no parking” signs that were installed on Soundview Road and the recent history regarding parking at his business Nutmeg Twisters.

Chief Hutchinson reported that he and Mr. Redes have had several discussions regarding the parking situation and the no parking signs. Chief Hutchinson discussed parking with the other businesses on Soundview Road. It was agreed that, on occasion, Nutmeg Twisters require more parking than there are spaces available.

Chief Hutchinson gave a strict directive, stating there will be zero tolerance regarding parking in the no parking zones on Soundview Road. Mr. Redes said he understood. Chief Hutchinson recommended additional lighting be installed at Nutmeg Twisters.

Discussion continued regarding lighting at the location of Nutmeg Twisters and Mr. Redes will discuss additional lighting with his landlord. The Traffic Authority will continue to review the placement of the signage on both sides of the road. Chief Hutchinson will consider the possibility of no parking signs with an arrow.

Mr. Redes thanked the Board of Police Commissioners and left the room at 6:00 PM.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Commission voted to move up the Agenda Item 4.2.2. Swearing-In Ceremony- Officers Fitzpatrick, Lall, Peet and Quilty

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey
Opposed: None
Abstained: None

3.2. Runs/Rides

3.2.1. 2018R1-Little League parade: 4/21/18.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to approve 2018R1-Little League parade on 4/28/18

(with the date change from 04/21/18 to 04/28/18 as requested by Little League prior to the call to order).

*All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

3.2.2. 2018R2-Kids Ride for Kids: 5/6/18.

Discussion took place regarding this road ride request. The event coordinator agreed that this ride will return to its original location in Madison next year.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to approve 2018R2-Kids Ride for Kids on 5/6/18 as presented.

*All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

3.2.3. 2018R3-D.A.Y. Color Run: 5/19/18.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to approve 2018R3-D.A.Y. Color Run: 5/19/18 as presented.

*All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

3.2.4. 2018R4-Song Strong Run: 6/9/18.

Chief Hutchinson discussed this event which is a new one this year. In consideration of the location of the race start and finish, he foresees no issues with the race or with traffic concerns. Discussion took place regarding outside police services for the event.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to approve 2018R4-Song Strong Run: 6/9/18 as presented.

*All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey
Opposed: None
Abstained: None*

Commissioner Chello discussed possible time changes for run/race events. In light of the businesses around the green and traffic, he suggested that possibility of pushing future ride requests to afternoons. Discussion took place. It was agreed that when Chief Hutchinson receives requests, he will ask the consideration of afternoon startup times.

3.2.5. 2018R5-Tri-State Trek: 6/23/18.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Frey, and seconded by Commissioner Chello, the Commission voted to approve 2018R5-Tri State Trek: 6/23/18 as presented.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

3.2.6. 2018R6-Summer Breeze Ride for Autism: 7/22/18.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to approve 2018R6-Summer Breeze Ride for Autism: 7/22/18 as presented.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

4. Committee Reports.

4.1. Facilities/Equipment

4.1.1. Verbal Update.

Deputy Chief Hyatt reviewed the continuing issues regarding the HVAC system in the building and reported on multiple issues. The vendor continues to work on the system in an effort to fix the control system for adequate heating and cooling. Failures continue and emergency repairs are being addressed. In consideration of the age of the building, existing systems are at or approaching the end of their useful lives.

4.2. Personnel

4.2.1. Personnel Update.

Chief Hutchinson provided an update on personnel. Four officers have completed field training and will be sworn-in tonight. One officer just graduated the Academy and is on field training. One officer is attending the Academy.

4.2.2. Swearing-In Ceremony-Officer Fitzpatrick, Lall, Peet and Quilty.

Chairman Mikolay conducted a formal swearing-in ceremony at 6:05 PM for Officer Fitzpatrick, Officer Lall, Officer Peet and Officer Quilty. A photo opportunity took place. A brief recess for refreshments took place.

4.3. Communications.

4.3.1. Read Across America-Thank you.

Chairman Mikolay thanked all uniformed personnel involved in Read Across America for their participation. This project was in conjunction with Melissa Jones School. Deputy Chief Hyatt organized this event for the department.

4.3.2. Communication acknowledging Officer Bartlett.

Chairman Mikolay read from communication received acknowledging Officer Bartlett for her fine work.

4.3.3. Thank you note to the Police Department-from Lynnfield, MA.

Chairman Mikolay acknowledged a thoughtful note from residents in Lynnfield, Massachusetts thanking the department for its bravery and service in difficult times.

4.3.4. Thank you note to the Police Department-Stony Creek Wellness Group.

Chairman Mikolay acknowledged a thoughtful note from the Stony Creek Wellness Group for bravery and service.

4.3.5. Thank you note to the department.

Chairman Mikolay acknowledged a thank you note to the department for helping a resident with a tree.

4.3.6. Thank you to Chief Hutchinson.

Chairman Mikolay acknowledged a thank you note that was sent to the Chief of Police for the services provided by his department.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to add to the Agenda under Communication item 4.3.7. Thank you note from Sergeant Lawrence.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

4.3.7. Thank you note from Sergeant Lawrence.

Chairman Mikolay read from a thank you note to the Board of Police Commissioners and Administrative Staff of the Chief of Police for kindness and support during a difficult time.

4.4. Budget/Finance.

4.4.1. 2017/2018 Budget.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed budget line items with the Board of Police Commissioners. He reviewed replacement, overtime and police salaries. Chief Hutchinson reviewed the scope of overtime and replacement. The overall budget remains in line.

4.4.2. 2018/2019 Budget.

Chairman Mikolay announced that the town budget for 2018/2019 passed the referendum vote.

5. Monthly Reports.

Chief Hutchinson reviewed the monthly reports.

6. Old Business.

None.

7. New Business

6.1. Guilford Safe Streets and Pedestrian Task Force.

Discussion took place and it was agreed that this project has not moved forward. It was agreed this item will be removed.

8. Police Comments.

None.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to move out of Public Session and into Executive Session to discuss Item 9.1. Update-Pending Legal Matters inviting the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police and excusing the Clerk of the Board at 6:40 PM.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

*Respectfully submitted,
Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board*

9. Executive Session.

9.1. Update-Pending Legal Matters.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Chello, and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, the Commission voted to move out of Executive Session and into Public Session at 6:45 PM.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

No action was taken; no motions were made in Executive Session.

Motion: Upon a motion by Commissioner Carlson, and seconded by Commissioner Frey, the Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM.

All in favor: Mikolay, Carlson, Chello, Frey

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Typist of Executive Session:

Lucy Krauchick, Clerk of the Board