

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

**Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 5:30p.m.
Town Hall Annex
66 Prospect Street**

Anyone requiring special accommodations due to disability is asked to contact Headquarters at 438-6531 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Commissioners Present: Sharon Dornfeld, Chairperson
Issy Caporale, Secretary
Marianne Coffin
John Frey
Ralph Money

Also Present: Chief Jeff Kreitz
Major Shawn Platt

These minutes are an overview of the meeting; not a verbatim text.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chairperson Dornfeld

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Dornfeld requested a motion to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2024 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Money made a motion and Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.

All in Favor

**Minutes of the May 9, 2024 Police Commission Meeting
accepted as written.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anne' Letourneau, from 452 Silver Spring Road, presented her concern about speeding and stolen cars on Silver Spring Road. Chief Kreitz stated either Captain Nick Fowler, Uniform Division Commander or Captain Jeff Raines, Division of Professional Standards will be getting in touch with her to coordinate a meeting to address the neighborhood concerns.

3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**A. Voicemail**

There was no voicemail received for the month of May.

B. Written Correspondence

There was no written correspondence received for the month of May.

4. NEW BUSINESS**A. State Project 0174-0461**

Chief Kreitz presented to the Police Commission a letter the Town received from CTDOT about plans to install "STOP" signs, "STOP AHEAD" signs, Intersection Warning signs, stop bars, and double yellow center lines at unsignalized municipal intersections. For Ridgefield, the intersections affected by this will be East Ridge Road/Governor Street and Grove Street/Old Quarry Road. It will be the responsibility of the Town of Ridgefield to maintain these signs and pavement markings. Commissioner Coffin requested a diagram of the improvements. Chief Kreitz stated that he would make the request to the State DOT.

B. Proposed Development Misc. 24-5 for 62 East Ridge Road and 58 Prospect Ridge.

Chief Kreitz presented the traffic study received from Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. addressing their analysis of the traffic impact of this development. They stated the development, which would consist of four new single-family homes, will not have a significant adverse impact on area traffic. They agreed with this finding. The Police Commission raised concerns about the impact of future development on the already high volume of traffic.

5. OLD BUSINESS**A. Public Safety Building Update**

There were two public information meetings held on Saturday, June 15 at the Ridgefield Library. These meetings were presented by Selectperson Rudy Marconi, Chief Jeff Kreitz, Jake Muller, Director of Public Works and Facilities, and Fire Chief Jerry Myers. These meetings were a building update and a chance for residents to ask questions or voice their concerns. Chairperson Dornfeld also stated that these are preliminary plans, bringing attention to the town. Chief Kreitz stated that all residents seeking more information on the project should visit the project website.

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

A. Traffic/Sign Report

The following report was submitted by Sgt. Mark Caswell Sign Officer.

Re: May 2024 Sign Report

Sign/Traffic Follow-Up:

A resident, who lives in the development across the street from 20 Bryon Avenue, requested that No Parking signs be installed in the area of 20 Bryon Avenue to keep the residence from parking in the street causing an issue with the residence who live in that development. I contacted the resident of 20 Bryon Avenue and she stated she wasn't aware of the issue and would no longer park in the street. This eliminated the need for a No Parking sign in the area.

A resident on Prospect Street requested that the "ACT CT" sign be removed from his front lawn. He sent requests to both Tracey Bryggman, the General Manager of ACT as well as to Rudy Marconi. A compromise has been reached and it has been repositioned off his lawn.

Sign Repair/Maintenance:

Installed the Speed sign on Farmingville Road.
Repaired the 25 mph Speed Limit sign on Old Sib Road.
Replaced the Dead End sign on Manor Road.
Repaired the Stop sign at Mamanasco Road and Tackora Trail.
Replaced the Curve sign on Florida Road.
Replaced the No Parking sign on East Ridge Road.
Repaired the Handicapped signs at the Town Hall Annex parking lot.
Installed a Stop sign at the Town Hall Annex.
Installed the second Speed sign on Nod Road.
Replaced a No Parking sign on Halpin Lane.
Replaced two 25 mph Speed Limit signs on Limestone Road.
Replaced the 25 mph Speed Limit sign on Old Stagecoach Road.
Replaced the Stop Sign at Prospect Street and Grove Street.
Repositioned the "ACT CT" sign on Prospect Street.
Repaired the Pedestrian sign on Prospect Street.
Replaced the 25 mph Speed Limit sign on Silver Spring Road.

B. TRAINING/PR REPORT

The following report was submitted by Capt. Jeff Raines, Division of Professional Standards.

**Ridgefield Police Department
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report
May 2024**

Training Attended:

- May 1-3:** Detective Ladue attended Crime Scene Procedure/Investigation training at the Waterford PD.
- May 6-7:** Lieutenant Durling, Lieutenant Knoche, Lieutenant Clarke, Sergeant DiFalco, Officer Samoskevich and Officer Hartling attended EMR training at HQ, which was taught by Captain Smith.
- May 7-9:** Officer Vasquez attended Leadership training at POSTC in Meriden, CT.
- May 9:** Lieutenant Durling, Sergeant DiFalco and Sergeant Geller attended Use of Force/Train-the-Trainer training at POSTC in Meriden, CT.
- May 10:** Captain Fowler, Captain Raines, Detective Dardis and Sergeant Van Wattum attended Use of Force/Train-the-Trainer (refresher) training at POSTC in Meriden, CT.
- May 13-17:** Lieutenant Durling attended De-Escalation Principles and Practices Train-the-Trainer training at POSTC in Meriden, CT.
- May 13-24:** Officer McMahon completed the statewide Accreditation Audit through POSTC. I commend him for the work he did, in preparing our department to pass the audit without any issues.
- May 14-23:** Officer Olivares and Officer Clark attended Firearms Instructor School at West Point, which was hosted by the FBI.
- May 24:** Officer Biro and Officer Conrad attended NREMT Test Preparation training in New Britain, CT.

P/R Events:

- May 4:** An Officer attended the Spring Fling with a police cruiser, which was held outside at the Jesse Lee Day School.

- May 10:** School Resource Officer Giglio hosted a DARE graduation at the Farmingville School.
- May 13:** School Resource Officer Seibert hosted a DARE graduation at the Ridgebury School.
- May 16:** Officer Kay was honored at the Exchange Club-Officer of the Year ceremony, which took place at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville, CT.
- May 23:** School Resource Officer Giglio hosted a DARE graduation at the Veterans Park School.
- May 23:** The Annual Police Memorial Ceremony was held at the Lounsbury House.
- May 30:** The annual GRADD ceremony took place in front of Town Hall.
- May 31:** The annual Special Olympics of CT Law Enforcement Torch Run took place, starting in Ridgefield and ending in Wilton.

Upcoming Events:

The RHS senior intern (Matthew Mullen) started his internship with us on May 13th and will be with us until June 12th. He's doing very well and gets along with everyone.

We will be hosting our annual Awards Ceremony (K-9 Odin/Ofc. Almonte Swearing-In) on June 12th @ 1000 hours at the Lounsbury House. All are encouraged to attend.

The PBA will be participating in another Tip-A-Cop on June 27th from 5:00pm to 9:00pm at 850 Wood Fired Restaurant.

A total of 13 Public Relations were performed during the month to include:

- Officers met with the staff and children at the Shir Shalom Temple.
- Several car seat installations were performed.
- Officers met with local businesses and spoke with employees.
- Officers gave several Rides-To-School. (Gift Certificate recipients)
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages.

C. DEPARTMENT STATS

Chief Kreitz stated the total number of incidents for the month of May 2024 was 1,533. He highlighted some of the statistics for the month as well as year-to-date.

7. Union Participation

None.

**Commissioner Money made a motion to adjourn at 6:18pm.
Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.**

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Issy Caporale
Police Commission Secretary