

Town of Ridgefield Police Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 7:00 pm Meeting Location: Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street UNAPPROVED

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sharon Dornfeld (Chair), Issy Caporale (Secretary), John Frey & Ralph Money

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Jeff Kreitz, Major Nick Fowler & Amy Platt

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

Meeting called to order by Chair Sharon Dornfeld at 7:02 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Ralph Money to approve the July 10th meeting minutes. Seconded by John Frey. Motion carried 4-0.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Andi Mead and Kevin Collins of Rockwell Rd. shared their concern about an increase in heavy-duty truck traffic using the road as a pass-thru, and requested a No Thru Trucks sign be installed. Chief Kreitz agreed to look into their concern, and should the situation warrant it, will request a sign be installed sometime this fall.

3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

A. Voicemail

- Commissioner Caporale will provide a summary of requests/concerns to Chief Kreitz and Major Fowler for further review, and agreed to provide any necessary follow-up.
- A resident of Madelyn Dr. asked if the new 25 MPH Speed Limit sign can be changed to 15 MPH.
- A resident of Playground Rd. requested a modification to parking signs; Commissioner Caporale will provide clarification.

B. Written Correspondence

Chief Kreitz shared a draft of the 2025 PBA Annual Mailer with the Commission.

<u>John Frey made a motion to approve the PBA Annual Mailer with minor copy changes.</u> <u>Seconded by Issy Caporale. Motion carried 4-0</u>.



• Chief Kreitz asked if the Commission wants to renew their annual membership to the Police Commissioners Association of Connecticut (PCAC). All agreed.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public Safety Building Update

- Two information sessions regarding the new Public Safety Building Project took place this month with positive feedback. In addition, Chief Kreitz met with the Ridgefield Men's Club, and the Ridgefield Rotary Club earlier this week.
- Sharon Dornfeld received a request to present to the Ridgefield Women's Club has requested a meeting. Chief Kreitz requested to join this presentation when scheduled.
- Annual Safety Day takes place this Sunday, September 21 Information postcards with building information will be distributed.

B. 29 Prospect Street Truck Exit onto Grove Street

• The applicant withdrew their request re: permitting delivery trucks to exit from Ridgefield Supply onto Grove Street.

C. State Project 0170-3756 Rural Road Speed Limit Signs

 The Department provided recommendations to the State for replacing older speed limit signs on some of the Town's rural roads. The State agreed to all. Sgt. Mark Caswell will accompany the State when new signs are installed.

5. **NEW BUSINESS** - No new business

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

- A. Traffic / Sign Report Nothing new to report for July & August
- B. Training & Public Relations Report Submitted by Cpt. Brian Durling

July & August Trainings Attended:

July 1-3	Ofc. Clark attended Field Training Officer training in Meriden.
July 7-11	Ofc Giglio attended the annual NASRO (National Association of
	School Resource Officers) conference in Grapevine, TX.
July 7-11	Cpt. Durling attended Media and Public Relations training put on by
	FBI-LEEDA in Cape May Courthouse, NJ.
July 21-25	Sgt. McMahon and Sgt. Seibert attended the Supervisor Leadership
	Institute put on by FBI-LEEDA in New Britain, CT.
August 11 - 12	Det. Dardis attended Low Light Pistol Instructor training in New
	Hampshire.

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August 20 - 22	Ofc Luis and Ofc Kay attended Field Training Officer training at the
	CT Police Academy.

Community Policing & Public Relations Events:

During the month of July, the Department participated in 27 community policing and public relations events, including engaging residents at local houses of worship, local business owners, staff and residents of Ballard Green, and provided citizen ride-alongs. Social media was used to highlight public safety for e-bikes, communicate road closures, introduce new staff, and share monthly department stats. Some of the events Officers participated in include,

- 1) **Junior Police Academy** program in partnership with the Ridgefield Boys & Girls Club July 14-18th.
- 2) Det. Victoria Ryan co-presented **Scams, Tech & Theft in Today's World** at the Ridgefield Library on July 15th with Wes DeSantis of RPS and the Town's IT Director, Andrew Neblett.
- 3) Our newest Officer, Daniel Burke was sworn in on July 17th.
- 4) Officers attended **Ridgefield's Summerfest** event on July 26th, working in a variety of capacities.

In August, the Department participated in 20 community policing and public relations events with a special focus on back-to-school safety, and new state regulations regarding E-bikes that take effect this fall. Officers met with school officials and parents regarding back-to-school related concerns, including safe driving laws for new teen drivers.

The Department's SRO's were featured in important back-to-school safety videos on the Department's social media.

And, ACO Zulkeski organized the annual **Kids Fishing Derby** for families on August 17th which was well-attended.

C. Department Statistics

• Chief Kreitz shared the Department's monthly statistics

D. Communications Update

• The Department welcomed our new Communications Supervisor Tom Ramsdell on September 2nd. Tom has 20+ years of Emergency Dispatch experience and will lead a team of (8) Dispatchers. We are actively recruiting for (2) Dispatcher vacancies.



E. Miscellaneous

- The Town's annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony was well-attended and everything went smoothly.
- RPD's Certificate of Accreditation Chief Kreitz shared that Sgt. Anthony McMahon is credited with all of the work that went into the Department receiving its annual Certificate of Accreditation.
- The Department's new ATV was delivered this week; Training to follow including search and rescue and general operations.
- Chief Kreitz left messages with State DOT regarding the request to have the driveway access traffic light at Copps Hill Plaza set to flash during morning rush hour; Awaiting a response.

7. UNION PARTICIPATION

With no further business, Ralph Money moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm. John Frey seconded the motion. Motion approved.

REMINDER: Next meeting Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm