

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
February 15, 2011

1. Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Naugatuck Police Commission to order at 7:01 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

POLICE COMMISSION:

Steve Smith
Ralph Roper
Linda Mayfield
James San Angelo

DEPT. HEADS AND OTHERS:

Chief Christopher Edson
Deputy Chief Josh Bernegger
Jim Goggin

ALTERNATES:

Walter Bertotti
Andy Barnes

ABSENT:

Mayor Mezzo
Bruce Whitaker
Domingos Branco
Chris Ford

Public: 0

Staff: 0

Press: 0

2. Chairman Smith led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. ALTERNATES APPOINTED AS VOTING MEMBERS:

Chairman Smith appointed A. Barnes and W. Bertotti as voting members in the absence of Mayor Mezzo and B. Whitaker respectively.

4. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held on December 21, 2010.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE
6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NAUGATUCK PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 5K ROAD RACE:

It was agreed to table this item until later in the meeting to await Jim Goggin's arrival.

7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A REVIEW OF THE BOROUGH OF NAUGATUCK'S WINTER PARKING BAN:

Deputy Chief Bernegger explained the many problems that have occurred due to the currently worded Parking Ban Ordinance for both law enforcement and the general public. It is his goal to work in conjunction with day shift supervisors, the Street Department and Fire Department to improve the ordinance by eliminating the exceptions and giving it a clearer and more concise language. Chief Edson explained the importance of the parking ban.

A motion by A. Barnes and seconded by J. San Angelo to send the issue of the Winter Parking Ban to the Subcommittee for Traffic and to work in cooperation with Deputy Chief Bernegger.

Discussion: Chairman Smith suggested the Commissioners look throughout the town now while snow is still present. J. San Angelo and L. Mayfield expressed their interest in working on this project.

Vote: Unanimous

8. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE NAUGATUCK PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 5K ROAD RACE:

Jim Goggin spoke on behalf of the Parent School Council to inform the Commission of their plan to hold a road race on March 12, 2011 in the area of North Main Street, Curtiss Street and Linden Park, ending at the Old Corner Café. He requested the closing of North Main Street from 8:30 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. Chief Edson explained that exit ramps from Route 8 could not be closed. Chairman Smith recommended that Chief Edson decide what security measures will be appropriate for the event.

A motion by W. Bertotti and seconded by L. Mayfield to accept the plan from Jim Goggin and allow him to conduct the 5K road race.

Discussion: Chief Edson asked Mr. Goggin to contact Deputy Chief Bernegger and the Fire Department one week before the race.

Vote: Unanimous

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REVIEW OF THE CURRENT HIRING LIST:

Chairman Smith stated that the current hiring list is over one year old and felt it was antiquated.

A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by R. Roper to close the current hiring list.

Discussion: Chief Edson informed the Commission that the department has a full complement of personnel. There are currently three officers eligible for retirement in the next year but it could be greater if early retirements are negotiated. Chairman Smith directed him to begin the necessary effort to start a new list. Chief Edson said he will do so after the budget season has passed. The Commission agreed to leave the timing up to him.

Vote: Unanimous

10. UNION BUSINESS: NONE

11. PRESENTATION OF CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORTS:

A motion by R. Roper and seconded by L. Mayfield to accept the Chief's monthly reports.

Discussion: Chief Edson noted that while there is a full complement of personnel he currently has three officers on workers' compensation. Two of which have been released to light duty assignments. He further stated that he has assigned Officer Mike Favale as Lt. Harrison's assistant. J. San Angelo questioned this action due to repercussions from the Union. Chief Edson assured him that he is working with full cooperation of all Union members. Chief Edson was also complimented for his management of the current budget. Chief Edson said the Mayor has not brought up any more issues with the contract.

Vote: Unanimous

12. CORRESPONDENCE:

Lieutenants Todd Brouillette and Greg Dean, Sergeant Ronal Hunt, and Officers Andre Moutela and Ryan Burns each notified the Commission of their intent to pursue their college education.

Dean Troia, 26 Orchard Terrace, requested a handicapped parking sign in front of his home. Gerald Sacknoff, 21 Pond Street also requested a handicapped sign in front of his residence. It was agreed the Subcommittee for Traffic will review these requests. Recording Clerk J. LaCharity asked the Commission to inform the Police Department of decisions it reaches regarding requests such as these.

Evelyn Marshak thanked Officer Peter Bosco for his assistance at a motor vehicle accident on January 10, 2011.

Waterbury Chief of Police Michael Gugliotti thanked Sergeant Bryan Cammarata for his participation in the funeral services of Lieutenant Vincent Riddick. He also thanked Lieutenant Greg Dean, Sergeant Bart Deeley, Detective Thomas Conway, and Officers Andre Moutela, Amanda Devan and Paul Markette for covering the city while the Waterbury Officers were allowed to attend the services.

Jim Goggin submitted a letter of request to hold a 5K race prior to attending the Commission meeting.

These items will be placed into the officers' personnel files.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

14. OPEN ITEMS: NONE

15. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:

W. Bertotti, Land Use, produced plans for a project on Great Hill Road proposed by Bushka Lumber. It was suggested that he meet with Chief Edson to discuss the various issues entailed with new construction and report his findings at the next meeting.

J. San Angelo, Towing, said he was contacted by Eastside Towing of Waterbury, but didn't read or accept the correspondence sent to him.

Chairman Smith said he would forward the alarm violation appeals to C. Ford. L. Mayfield stated as a member of the subcommittee she would like some input regarding the appeals. J.LaCharity asked for open lines of communication between the Commission and the Police Department while these matters are being resolved.

16. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE REQUEST FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL "NO PARKING" SIGNS ON MAPLE TERRACE:

Deputy Chief Bernegger produced his traffic study of Maple Terrace at the intersection of May Street and High Street. He worked with Captain Scully and the Fire Department to review the concerns regarding inadequate and dangerous traffic conditions fire trucks encounter when navigating this area. He proposed the elimination of four parking spaces.

A motion by W. Bertotti and seconded by J. San Angelo to accept the traffic plan from Deputy Chief Bernegger for “No Parking” on a portion of Maple Terrace and the lower portion of May Street.

Discussion: The Commissioners said this plan is greatly needed for the safety of the Fire Department.

Vote: Unanimous

17. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

A. Barnes said the newspaper did not have accurate information regarding the Wal-Mart expansion.

W. Bertotti praised the actions of the new K-9 Vane for finding the eyeglasses of a senior citizen.

L. Mayfield asked for information regarding uninsured drivers.

Chief Edson announced that Officer Derek Poundstone has been named “Global Ambassador” for Special Olympics and noted the distinction this title carries.

18. A motion by J. San Angelo and seconded by W. Bertotti at 8:26 p.m. to adjourn to the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at the Naugatuck Police Department, Naugatuck, CT.

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous.

ATTEST:

Steven Smith, Chairman
Naugatuck Police Commission