

## **MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**

**Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 5:05pm via Zoom**

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 7B, the in-person open meeting requirements for a public agency have been suspended. As a result, the Public Commission will conduct a public meeting remotely using video/audio conference technology in real time.

**Commissioners Present:** Marianne Coffin, Chairperson  
**Via Zoom** Nicholas Perna, Secretary  
George Kain  
Joseph Savino

**Absent:** Issy Caporale

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz  
**Via Zoom** Major Stephen Brown

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Chairperson Coffin. This meeting was conducted via Zoom.

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Savino made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2020 Police Commission meeting. Commissioner Perna seconded the motion.

**All in favor**

### **2. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **A. Voicemail**

Commissioner Perna received a voicemail from an individual moving to East Ridge Road inquiring about traffic on the road. Chief Kreitz followed up with her. Commissioner Perna received another voicemail regarding no parking signs on Florida Road near the rail trail. PO Caswell will be following up.

#### **B. Written Correspondence**

None.

**3. NEW BUSINESS****A. Detective Division Commander Annual Report**

Captain Tom Comstock updated the Commissioners on the detective division and the areas of responsibility for each detective with a description of each type of case they handle. He is pleased with the work, dedication and professionalism displayed by all.

**B. Officer Survey**

Per Chairperson Coffin this was tabled to next month. Chief Kreitz just did an overview of some of the topics which will be discussed in full next month.

**C. Capital Budget Draft**

Chief Kreitz updated the commissioners on the Capital Budget Draft.

**D. Election of Police Commission Officers**

Commissioner Perna made a motion to re-elect Commissioner Coffin as Chairperson for the Police Commission for 2021.

Commissioner Kain seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

Commissioner Perna made a motion to elect Commissioner Kain as the Secretary for the Police Commission for 2021. Commissioner Savino seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**4. CHIEF'S REPORT****A. Monthly Stats**

Chief Kreitz stated the monthly stats for the month of October were 1,059 and year to date stats were 12,253.

**B. Traffic/Sign Report**

- Traffic Officer Mark Caswell's report addressed the signs that were replaced, repaired or installed during the month of October.
- Officer Caswell spoke with the State DOT regarding the traffic control signal at Danbury Road/Copps Hill Plaza. He requested that the light not get to flash during the overnight and morning hours. This request was made due to increased traffic at Chase Bank. The light will now remain in full cycle and the traffic light at Danbury Road/Farmingville Road/Copps Hill Road was adjusted to allow for a larger continue on Danbury Road. The State DOT will be evaluating the traffic flow. Officer Caswell is researching signage to assist motorists exiting Copps Hill Plaza and Chase Bank.

**C. Training/PR Report**

The following report was submitted by Capt. Shawn Platt, Division of Professional Standards:

**Ridgefield Police Department  
Training & Community/Public Relations Report  
October 2020**

**Training Attended**

**October 29-** Capt. Terzian, Lt. Raines, Lt. Durling, Sgt. Clarke, PO Luis, PO Ekstrom, Det. Ryan, PO Olivares attended Annual Firearms Training at Wooster Mountain Range presented by Lt. Fowler, Det. Papstein, Det. Dardis and PO VanWattum.

**October 30-** Capt. Comstock, Sgt. Gogola, Sgt. Murray, PO Samoskevich, Det. DuBord, PO Shimko, and PO McKnight attended Annual Firearms Qualifications Training at Wooster Mountain Range presented by Lt. Fowler, Det. Papstein, Det. Dardis and PO VanWattum.

**Virtual Training Attended**

**October 21-** Lt. Raines, Lt. Fowler and Sgt. Knoche attended Intox. Instructor Recert.

A total of 10 Public Relations were performed during the month to include:

- Capt. Platt did the Drug Take Back Drive Thru at RPD on 10/24/20.
- Multiple stop and talks at houses of worship.
- Multiple Social Media posts of police activities.
- Halloween Drive-Thru at the Lounsbury House 10/31/20.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Feasibility Study**

A facilities update meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 23 at 1:00pm.

**B. Department Hiring - Update**

Major Brown stated so far 33 applicants have responded to the dispatcher position on the Police App. The Police Officer position will be advertised until December 21.

**6. UNION PARTICIPATION**

None.

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**Commissioner Kain made a motion to adjourn the Public Session at 6:08pm. Commissioner Perna seconded the motion. All in favor.**

**Commissioner Kain made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel performance. Commissioner Perna seconded the motion. The Commission, Chief Kreitz and Major Brown went into Executive Session via conference call at 6:08pm. All in favor.**

**The Commission returned to Public Session at 6:15pm.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Kain and seconded by Commissioner Perna to accept Major Brown's request to the Town for an extension of his retirement date (required per Article 1 of the Town of Ridgefield Defined Benefit Pension Plan).**

**The motion passed unanimously**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Kain and seconded by Commissioner Perna to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm. All in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Nick Perna  
Police Commission Secretary

