

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

**Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 7:00p.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:** John Frey, Chairman  
Sharon Dornfeld  
Ralph Money

**Absent:** Issy Caporale, Secretary  
Marianne Coffin

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz  
Major Platt

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Frey.

Chairman Frey also stated there would not be an Executive Session.

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

Chairman Frey requested a motion to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2022 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Money made a motion and Commissioner Dornfeld seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**Minutes of November 10, 2022 Police Commission Meeting  
accepted as written.**

**The motion carried 3-0. Secretary Caporale and Commissioner Coffin were absent.**

Chairman Frey requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2022 Police Commission Special Meeting. Commissioner Money made a motion and Commissioner Dornfeld seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**Minutes of December 2, 2022 Police Commission Special Meeting accepted as written.**

**The motion carried 3-0. Secretary Caporale and Commissioner Coffin were absent.**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Voicemail**

Commissioner Caporale received a voicemail from a concerned resident on Clearview Drive. The resident met with Chief Kreitz and Major Platt and the concern was resolved.

**B. Written Correspondence**

Chief Kreitz informed the Commission that he received the updated CT Local Traffic Authority contact form for Chairman Frey to sign.

The Police Commission received a copy of their meeting schedule for 2023.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Operating and Capital Budget Review and Approval**

Chief Kreitz gave a thorough presentation on the Operating and Capital Budget Review for the next five years. He answered all the commissioners questions they had pertaining to such topics as the Canine Van Replacement, License Plate Reader, Secondary Road Study, Portable Radio Replacement and the I Record System. Suggestions were made to disperse some of the topics to different years. Chief Kreitz stated that one of the ways the department is keeping the budget down is by keeping the vehicles longer. The Police Commission stressed how pleased they are with all the training the police officers receive. They would like to see the allotted money for this increased.

Overall, the operating budget increases are minimal in keeping the equipment current and up to date with today's standards. Commissioner Money made a motion to approve the review as discussed. Commissioner Dornfeld seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**The motion carried 3-0. Secretary Caporale and Commissioner Coffin were absent.**

**B. Review of Chief's Goals 2022**

Chief Kreitz went over his goals for 2022. Two commissioners will be picked to represent the commission to prepare along with Chief Kreitz his goals for 2023.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Public Safety Building Update**

Jake Muller (Director of Facilities and Purchasing) is waiting for the final design plan. A third on-site meeting will be forthcoming.

**6. CHIEF'S REPORT**

**A. Traffic/Sign Report**

The following report was turned in by Sgt. Mark Caswell

Regarding: November 2022 Sign Report

Sign Maintenance:

1. Replaced the Stop sign at North Street and Maple Shade Road.
2. Replaced the Stop sign at Weir Farm Lane and Nod Hill Road.
3. Replaced the Stop sign at Copper Beach Lane and Lee Road.
4. Replaced the Stop sign at Grandview Drive and Barrack Hill Road.
5. Installed a Do Not Enter sign on Prospect Ridge and Halpin Lane.

**B. Training/PR Report**

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

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**Ridgefield Police Department  
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report  
November 2022**

**Training Attended:**

**Nov. 14-16:** Officer Clark, Officer Vasquez and Officer Kay attended Telecommunicator Training at POSTC.

**Nov. 16:** Sergeant Shimko attended Breath/Alcohol Instructor training in

Meriden, CT.

**Nov. 21-23:** The department attended our annual, in-house Taser and De-escalation recertification training at HQ. The class was taught by Lt. Durling (De-escalation) and Ofc. Van Wattum & Ofc. Geller (Taser).

**Nov. 28-Dec. 9:** Sergeant Shimko attended First Line Supervisor training at RWU (Roger Williams University) in Bristol, RI.

**P/R Events:**

**Oct. 31-Nov. 11:** The PBA is hosted the “Save a Suit Program” from October 31<sup>st</sup> through November 11<sup>th</sup>. The drop off location was the Village Cleaners. The event was a success, once again.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Dec. 3:** The PBA hosted “Stuff A Cruiser” on December 3<sup>rd</sup> in front of the Toy Chest on Main Street. (the turnout wasn’t great, due to the weather) We also have a Toys for Tots collection box in the front lobby at HQ, until the end of the month.

**Dec. 18:** The PBA is hosting the annual Penguin Plunge, to benefit the Special Olympics of CT. It will be held at Great Pond in Ridgefield.

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A total of 13 Public Relations were performed during the month(s) 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.
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages.

**C. Department Statistics**

Chief Kreitz reported the total incidents for the month of November 2022 was 1,242. He also highlighted some of the statistics for the month. Chief Kreitz stated year-to-date the total number of

incidents have increased from this time last year.

**D. Hiring Update**

Chief Kreitz stated they are progressing on schedule to the next phase of the hiring process.

**7. UNION PARTICIPATION**

None.

**Commissioner Dornfeld made a motion to adjourn the Police Commission Meeting at 8:50pm. Commissioner Money seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously,**

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Frey  
Police Commission Chairman