

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
of
Thursday October 11, 2018

Commissioners Present: Charles Knoche, Chairman
George Kain, Secretary
Marianne Coffin

Also Present: Major Stephen Brown
Captain Tom Comstock

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

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

Agenda Item #1 – Agenda Review

Chairman Knoche stated he would like to move the Detective Division Commander Report with Captain Tom Comstock 5A to Agenda Item #2A. Chairman Knoche stated he would also like to move Michael Galante of Frederick P. Clarke on Ridgefield Winter Club Traffic Study 5B to Agenda Item #2B. Chairman Knoche would also like to move Doug McMillan to Agenda Item #2C.

All In Favor

Agenda Amended

Agenda Item #2 Minutes

The minutes of the Special Executive Police Commission meeting on August 29, 2018, the minutes of the Special Police Commission meeting on September 4, 2018, the minutes of the Special Executive Police Commission meeting on September 18, 2018 and the minutes of the Special Executive Commission meeting on September 28, 2018. The minutes were approved by Commissioner Coffin and Commissioner Kain seconded the motion.

Agenda Item #2A Detective Division Commander Report

Captain Tom Comstock reported things are running smoothly in the Detective Division. He has no issues. He reported that you can't beat the training that the officers get upstairs. The stats are about the same as last year. Arrests have been made with other towns with the stealing of cars and contents. They were all around JV age. Detective Jorge Romero will be moving to Patrol Officer. SRO's are reporting problems in school are getting solved at school. In January Detective Dubord will be taking over some of Detective Steve Papstein's duties as he will be retiring within the next few years. Marci asked about elder people with identity theft. Captain Tom Comstock reported they have had classes to alert them. They think there will be an arrest with the Subway robbery. This is a joint effort with other towns.

Agenda Item #2B Michael Galante of Frederick P. Clark on Ridgefield Winter Club Traffic Study

Michael Galante presented his traffic study for the proposed Ridgefield Winter Club. This would be a private club with a max of 275 membership. This would consist of a rink, bowling,

restaurant, bar, study room to name a few. This facility would be closed during the summer months. The parking lot would contain 92 parking spaces, which is a requirement. The intersections in Ridgefield are with stop signs where the border with New York is traffic lights. The study was done for the volume of cars at peak hours. The facility would be open weekdays 7am to 11pm and weekends 8am to 11pm. This would be located at the old nursery garden property. Residents haven't had the chance to speak at a meeting yet. The study hasn't been compared to the volume of cars when the nursery was open. There is no alarm in the amount of accidents during the three year study.

Agenda Item #2C Doug McMillan Architect

Doug McMillan proposed to put in an access way for a variance for 4 houses on the access way off of High Ridge Avenue instead of 3. Right now there are three houses on an access way and another two houses on another access way. This would be the safest way. One house is right on the road. Commissioner George Kain mentioned he doesn't think the Commissioners can vote on it as a commission. Major Brown stated he will have Traffic Sign Officer Mark Caswell check into this. All agreed.

Agenda Item #3A Commission Correspondance Voicemail

There was a request for the lines on Branchville Road to be double lines.

Agenda Item #3B Written Correspondance

There was a request for Ritch Drive have a 25 MPH sign and a School Bus Stop Ahead sign. Major Brown will have Traffic Sign Officer Mark Caswell check into this. Another concern was over Danbury Road where cars are turning left into Ridgefield Recreation Center and cars are going around them on the right. One truck even went up over the curbing. Commissioner Knoche reported they can't do anything about this as it's a state road.

Agenda #4 Acting Chief's Report

Major Brown mentioned the controlled hunt starts on Monday, October 15. He made ID's for 14 hunters for 15 locations. There will be two new hires at the Police Department. Susanne Dennis for the dispatcher position and Elaine Wasicki for the Records Clerk position. Captain Comstock, Major Brown and Captain Kreitz went to the graduation for Police Officer Olivares.

There will be three in house peer counselors to help officers deal with stress. Major Brown also mentioned he sent out thank you notes to the Police Departments who helped with the services for Chief Roche. The Police Fund received over \$6,000. Commissioner Kain suggested to give out letters to the officers who helped out.

The Major gave out the stats for August and September. The cruiser bids were awarded to MHQ Ford out of Middletown, CT. The lease bids for the two unmarked vehicles will go to Ally.

The capital budget was discussed. Major Brown will finalize this and give to the Commissioners. The Public Session adjourned at 9:00pm. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

SB
CK

Charles Knoche
Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE RIDGEFIELD BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSION
Thursday, October 25, 2018**

Commissioners Present: Charles Knoche, Chariman
George Kain, Secretary
Marianne Coffin
Joseph Savino
Present By Phone: Stephen Saloom

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:38pm by Chairman Knoche and moved into Executive Session. (George Kain, Marianne Coffin) unanimous

The meeting returned to Public Session at 8:58pm

Motion by George Kain, seconded by Marianne Coffin. The Ridgefield Board of Police Commission appointed Captain Jeff Kreitz as Chief of Police. Vote 3-2 (Charles Knoche, George Kain and Marianne Coffin in favor. Joseph Savino and Stephen Saloom against.

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted

GK
OK, 8/1

George Kain
Secretary