



EAST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES

471 NORTH HIGH STREET • EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06512

Mayor Joseph A. Carfora



Honorable Board of
Police Commissioners

HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
TRAFFIC & PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2021 AT 7:00 PM
EAST HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
471 NORTH HIGH STREET
EAST HAVEN, CT

COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) PRESENT: Chairman Dominic Balletto (presiding), Commissioner Joseph DiSilvestro

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Edward Lennon, Deputy Chief Patrick Tracy, BOPC Commissioner Dianne Romans, Town Councilman Robert Ranfone

Chairman Balletto called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call – Quorum obtained
4. Discussion of open issues deferred to the Subcommittee for review and recommendation
5. Consider referral of recommendations to the full BOPC for action to be taken, if any

- a. Kim Hind (23 Talmadge Avenue) – Request for “Children Playing” sign at the beginning of the street and also on Pond Street

Chief Lennon has no issues or concerns with erecting the “Children Playing” signs as requested.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to refer this matter for approval to the full Board of Police Commissioners (hereinafter “the Board”); seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- b. Tania & Robert Butler (88 Edward Street) – Request for handicap sign in front of residence for autistic son who is non-verbal and has special transportation

Chief Lennon surveyed the residence and his assessment is that the driveway is extremely large (he estimates it could easily accommodate six vehicles) and the road way is wide in that area so he does not think a handicap sign is necessary.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend no action be taken by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- c. Karen Martin (15 Oak Grove Road) – Golf Carts (juveniles, beach community/municipal approval, etc.)

Chief Lennon commented that this is a bifurcated issue:

Juveniles – State law prevails, if an operator is under the age of 16 and/or unlicensed, it is illegal to operate a golf cart; therefore, there is no action for the Board to take.

State Statute 14-300g - Operation of golf carts. Equipment. Insurance – The Board, as the Local Traffic Authority, has to approve or disprove allowing of golf carts in compliance with the state statute.

Commissioner DiSilvestro sought clarification with the following scenario: If there is a state statute, and somebody is violating said state statute in front of an officer, they [the officer] can do something about it. Chief Lennon confirmed that an officer can fully enforce the provisions of the state statute (i.e., driver's license, flag/illumination in back, horn, operation during daylight hours on roads with speed limits of 25 MPH, etc.).

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend that the Board adopt the state statute; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- d. Tara McCarthy (141 Old Foxon Road) – Request of “Hidden Driveway” sign

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend approval by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- e. Tonia Macholl and Joanne Ansaldo (90 William Street) – Request for Handicap sign

Chief Lennon surveyed the residence and his assessment is that there is sufficient room for both vehicles to park in the driveway so he does not think a handicap sign is necessary.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend no action be taken by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- f. Resident (Bennett Road) – request for NO THRU TRUCK sign

Chief Lennon believes this is a lack of understanding about the premise of a NO THRU TRUCK sign whereby the state statute prohibits vehicles from entering or egressing a Town or an area; however, in this case, he believes that these trucks are going to a specific location along this route so the statute would not apply because it is permissible. We could go through the approval process with the DOT but he does not know if a NO THRU TRUCK sign would change anything because there is a quarry and multiple housing construction sites in this area – the vehicles are not bypassing a route, they are using it to gain access to a specific location. (Example: trucks bypassing the Q-Bridge by cutting through Eastern Street to Laurel Street to get to highway 95N is enforceable by the state statute; however, there is also an industrial park along Laurel Street that trucks need access to which would not violate the state statute.)

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend no action be taken by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

- g. Roberta Perillo (606 Laurel Street) – Request for flashing or stop light at 4-way intersection of Bradley, Laurel and Grannis

Chief Lennon stated that this intersection is already an established 4-way stop (with stop signs).

Because this is already a 4-way stop sign intersection, Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend no action be taken by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

h. Joe and Joan Proto (6 Charnes Drive) – Request for Deer Crossing signs

Chief Lennon presented a five-year analysis of accident data which indicated that of the six (6) accidents in this area, none were deer-related. Commissioner DiSilvestro asked what it takes to post the sign? Chief Lennon does not believe a sign will deter speeding that can be addressed through routine traffic enforcement; it basically comes down to a cost-based decision to purchase the signs for no accidents involving deer in the last five (5) years.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend no action be taken by the Board; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

i. Jacklyn Trickett-Sargent (45 Edgemere Road) – Concerns about golf carts and request for crosswalks with lights, preferably one at the entrance to Proto Drive. At the very minimum, speed bumps would accomplish the same thing

Chief Lennon commented that this is a continuation of Hemingway Avenue (Route 142) on to Silver Sands Road (Route 337) which are state-maintained roadways. The Board can take action by requesting an evaluation by the state to determine if they want to implement the crosswalks.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to recommend to the Board that it makes sense to request an evaluation by the state to demonstrate that we have taken the appropriate steps to address this concern even though it is a state road; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

j. Elizabeth Streeto (200 Tyler Street) – Request for speed bumps at the intersection of Bradley, Tyler and French Avenues. Seniors have no signage or caution “seniors walking” and no cross walks marked on the street

Chief Lennon commented specifically on the crosswalks. He stated that the Town is no longer contracting for smaller paint jobs and has purchased a painting machine. Public Works and Traffic Maintenance have been working on multiple crosswalk areas around town in conjunction with the permit parking program (Thompson, Tyler, other streets down near the beach are all scheduled to be repainted). Chief Lennon is not sure if this crosswalk has already been repainted but he will ensure that it is a priority.

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion that no action be taken by the Board with the explanation that this crosswalk is in the queue to be repainted; seconded by Chairman Balletto. All in favor. Motion carried.

k. Eastern/Laurel Street – NO THRU TRAFFIC – DOT Update

The last communications from the DOT were dated January 13, 2021 indicating, “*New Haven’s concurrence with the request of a Through Truck Prohibition on Laurel Street in East Haven which runs contiguously into Eastern Street in New Haven.*”

A review of the Department’s records revealed that no Through Truck Prohibition is currently approved for Eastern Street in New Haven.

By way of this email, the requests for Through Truck Prohibitions are being forwarded to the Department’s Division of Traffic Engineering for review. Someone from their office will review and reach out regarding their recommendation(s) upon completion.”

And, “The Department of Transportation’s Division of Traffic Engineering has received your email. It has been forwarded to the appropriate personnel for review and response.”

No further update at this time.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to adjourn; Chairman Balletto adjourned the meeting at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha M. Maldonado

Clerk to the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

[Audio recording on file – duration 18:22]