



EAST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES

471 NORTH HIGH STREET • EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06512

Mayor Joseph Maturo, Jr.

Honorable Board of
Police Commissioners

HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 30, 2018 AT 7:00 PM

471 NORTH HIGH STREET

EAST HAVEN, CT

COMMISSIONER(S) PRESENT: Chairman William Illingworth, Vice Chairman Joseph DiSilvestro, Commissioner Dawne Flynn, Commissioner Eduardo Torrealba, Commissioner Paul Carbo

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Edward Lennon, Deputy Chief James Naccarato, Citizen, ETV Videographer

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call – Clerk Maldonado; quorum obtained
4. Announcement(s)

Chairman Illingworth appointed Commissioner DiSilvestro as the Vice Chairman for the remainder of the term (February 2019) held by the late Vice Chairman Constantinople.

5. Consider and act upon the approval of the regular monthly meeting minutes of August 28, 2018

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to accept and approve the regular monthly meeting minutes of August 28, 2018 as received; seconded by Commissioner Flynn. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider and act upon the approval of the monthly reports (September and October)

Commissioner Torrealba made a motion to accept the monthly reports as received; seconded by Commissioner Flynn. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider and act upon Committee Reports & Recommendations

- a. Alarms Committee
- b. Supernumeraries Committee
- c. Traffic & Public Safety Committee

- i. State Representative Albis – Request for traffic signal at Foxon Road and Dale Street. Upon review and discussion with the Chief and Deputy Chief, the recommendation of the committee is that there is no need for a traffic signal at this intersection. Clerk Maldonado will convey a letter to Representative Albis with the committee's determination.

- ii. Victor Colella (38 Laura Lane) – Request for traffic signs at the bottom of Charter Oak Avenue at the Burr Street intersection that indicates NOT A THRU STREET – ONE-WAY AHEAD.

Chief Lennon stated that the Board must motion and approve establishing a NO THRU TRUCK zone between Burr Street and Holmes Street that can then be enforced by CT General Statute. Signage warning of an approaching one-way can be posted by our Traffic Maintenance. Commissioner Torrealba made a motion to add this to “Old Business” for discussion and a vote; seconded by Commissioner Carbo. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Public Comment

- a. Anthony Gambardella (76 Hughes Street) – Several traffic issues:
 - i. Main Street and Hughes Street – Spoke with owner of laundromat about a sign that obstructed the view onto Main Street coming from the center of town – the owner nicely complied by removing the sign.
 - ii. Traffic blocking Hughes Street at the light on Main Street coming into town – request for telephone pole signs or a “DO NOT BLOCK THE BOX” lettering on the road or other resolution. Deputy Chief Naccarato suggested a stripe to indicate where to stop.
 - iii. Forbes Place and Kimberly Avenue traffic signal/stop signs – Blocking the intersection, attempts to beat the light. State DOT prohibits the Town from installing any signage that interrupts the flow of traffic coming off of Frontage Road.

Items 8.a.ii. and 8.a.iii. will be deferred to the Traffic & Public Safety Committee for further review.

9. Correspondence Received/Sent

- a. Joyce Abate (11 Glen Haven Road), dated September 10, 2018 – Request for a traffic plan for Foxon Hill Road between Charnes Drive and the intersection of Foxon Hill Road and Thompson Street. Several close calls between cars and trucks pulling out of the new construction on the blind/sharp curve below Charnes Drive. Traffic from Quinnipiac Avenue trying to avoid Route 80 and speeding to make the light at Thompson and Route 80.
- b. Mark Streeter (7 Charter Oak Avenue), email dated September 26, 2018 – Request for speed limit and “Slow Children at Play” signs on the one-way street to deter speeding cars. Also, the “Do Not Enter” signs on the end of the one-way street are faded and need an upgrade.

Items 9.a. and 9.b. will be deferred to the Traffic & Public Safety Committee for review.

- c. Mary Ann Rivera (605 Main Street), dated September 23, 2018 – Ms. Rivera alleges that “current police officers are committing conspiracy, false arrest, excessive force, sexual misconduct and obstruction of justice with years of mistreatment of individuals, especially Hispanics and individuals of color, and have continually used efforts to cover it up.” Further, she alleges “things have gotten much worse with more retaliation from the EH Police Dept. These officers feel powerful and in control because no one has taken control of their illegal behavior. More officers need to be investigated, arrested and held liable for their actions.” Ms. Rivera is “demanding an intense investigation and demanding action be taken immediately against the town, the mayor and the police department for engaging in this behavior...A zero tolerance policy must be put in place immediately and anyone in the town violating it should be fired.”

Chief Lennon informed the Board that Ms. Rivera has made several civilian complaints which were all exhaustively investigated by Internal Affairs (IA) and unsubstantiated. The Internal Affairs Report has concluded that the information and statements provided by Ms. Rivera contradicted the body-worn camera footage. Additionally, Ms. Rivera made several appointments for an Internal Affairs interview and then refused to be recorded, and subsequently failed to provide requested information to the IA Officer to further investigate her complaints. Further, no Department policies or procedures were violated pursuant to Ms. Rivera's complaints. Separate from her complaints, an administrative error was discovered and subsequently addressed by Deputy Chief Naccarato.

10. Department Updates (Chief Lennon)

a. Personnel Matters/Injured Employees

Four (4) sworn personnel currently out on injury/medical leave; one (1) has returned to light-duty; one (1) SWAT member from the May 2 incident in North Haven has returned to full duty.

b. Overtime

Overtime is slightly higher due to schedule vacancies from injured personnel and mandated in-service training.

c. Awards & Commendations

d. Noteworthy News

CALEA onsite visit went well and we received very positive comments. Accreditation Board meets again in May 2019.

e. Old Business

- i. Victor Colella (38 Laura Lane) – Commissioner Torrealba made a motion to establish a NO THRU TRUCK zone from the corner of Burr Street and Charter Oak Avenue to Haines Street and Charter Oak Avenue; seconded by Vice Chairman DiSilvestro. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

11. New Business

a. Traffic Control Signal Application

Chief Lennon explained that the State DOT project to address flooding at Hemingway Avenue and Short Beach Road requires a signature from the local traffic authority.

12. Adjournment

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioners Carbo and Flynn. Chairman Illingworth adjourned the meeting at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha M. Maldonado
Clerk to the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

[Audio recording on file – duration 27:08 minutes]