



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 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 30, 2021 AT 7:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

COMMISSIONER(S) PRESENT: Chairman Paul Carbo (presiding), Vice Chairman Dominic Balletto, Commissioner Diane Romans, Commissioner Joseph DiSilvestro, Commissioner Barbara Barbuio

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Edward Lennon, Deputy Chief Patrick Tracy, Clerk Marsha Maldonado, Councilwoman Samantha Parlato, adagiere, Lorena Venegas, Jack Ziadeh

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

To the residents and tax-payers of the Town of East Haven, and other interested parties, due to Governor Ned Lamont's March 10, 2020 declaration of a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency and subsequently issued Executive Orders, and Mayor Joseph A. Carfora's March 16, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency in the Town of East Haven due to the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in the State of Connecticut including New Haven County, in-person public access to this meeting will not be permitted.

[The public can access this meeting from a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Tonight's regular meeting is taking place remotely via ZOOM. Videoconference links and dial-ins were provided to the public.]

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call - Clerk Maldonado; quorum obtained
4. Announcement(s)
5. Consider and act upon the approval of the regular Monthly Meeting minutes of February 23, 2021

Commissioner DiSilvestro made a motion to accept and approve the regular Monthly Meeting minutes of February 23, 2021 as received; seconded by Commissioner Romans; Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried.

6. Consider and act upon the approval of the Monthly Reports (March 2021)

Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to accept the monthly reports as received; seconded by Commissioner DiSilvestro. Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried.

7. Consider and act upon Committee Reports & Recommendations

Commissioner Romans is considering joining the Alarms Committee, however, due to other obligations, will hold off at this time.

8. Public Comment

a. Lorena Venegas

- i. “I wanted to see if we could maybe make our website for the police more user-friendly in being able to report traffic needs or safety concerns in our community. Sometimes we have a lot of persons like running a stop sign or there are persons I know that you can submit a letter to the Board but perhaps we can bump it up, use our technology better to do an electronic submission through the website. I think that would be really user-friendly and it would be good for transparency too.”
- ii. Community Policing – “I want to see if we can encourage our police department to try to work with teens this year. I want to see if we can find some money in the budget so we can do some programing with teens – especially teens in the center of town because it looks like there is a lot of fighting happening and that is a lot of the bulk of the police calls and sometimes that can lead to a court summons and sometimes it doesn’t depending on the situation. But anything we could do positive to do community policing including maybe even saving some money like in Branford right now, they hired non-officers to control traffic flow or to do the construction site so that they can do traffic flow, and those people being hired at like nineteen dollars an hour so it saves money from the officers salaries lines so those are good, positive things that we can do here in East Haven.”

Chief Lennon commented that the “**Contact Us**” on our website works – we get tons of responses for multiple things [<https://www.easthavenpolice.com/contact-us/> which also provides a link to our **Citizen Self Reporting** mechanism – see NOTE]. He also mentioned our Police Athletic League (PAL) which was on hiatus due to the [COVID-19] pandemic will reactive soon. There are and have been other community policing events planned. In lieu of our Citizens Police Academy, we had planned to hold a Youth Cadet Police Academy, however, we only received three (3) responses which were not enough to hold the Academy (fifteen participants are required to optimize our resources). In the coming months as the pandemic hopefully begins to minimize, officers will be out of their cars to engage with the community more.

9. Correspondence Received/Sent

All correspondence is distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting.

- a. Roberta Perillo (606 Laurel Street), dated March 16, 2021 – Request for flashing or stop light at 4-way intersection of Bradley, Laurel and Grannis. Traffic enforcement only works when officers are in the area, otherwise, motorists run the stop signs. She fears for the safety of her grandchildren who must cross the road to stand at the bus stop.
- b. Joe and Joan Proto (6 Charnes Drive), dated March 24, 2021– Request for Deer Crossing signs. Charnes Drive has become a speedway for cars, trucks, motorcycles, etc. speeding up and down the street – it is only a matter of time before there is a terrible accident involving the vehicles and deer. The speed limit has reached what seems to be uncontrollable proportions.

Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to defer both requests to the Traffic and Public Safety Committee for review and recommendation; seconded by Commissioner DiSilvestro. Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried.

10. Department Updates (Chief Lennon)

a. Personnel Matters/Injured Employees

- i. Five (5) sworn personnel are on injury: four (4) long term injury – no return status at this time; one (1) short term – anticipated return in the near future.
- ii. Two (2) new hires will begin the Police Academy in mid-April; five (5) recruits are at various phases of the Police Academy or field training.
- iii. Although we are at full compliment on paper, the reality is that we are short twelve (12) active sworn personnel until the completion of the Academy and subsequent field training, and injured employees return to full duty.

b. Overtime

Stabilizing and tracking in the right direction. Spreading out training has helped significantly.

c. Awards & Commendations

d. Noteworthy News

- i. The 2020 Annual Report has been distributed to the Board and will be posted to the East Haven Police Department website. Although COVID-19 impacted a lot of things, we were still able to accomplish quite a bit last year.
- ii. The Oath of Office Swearing-In Ceremony is tentatively scheduled for the first week of May. Invitations will be sent once the date is finalized.

11. Old Business

- a. No Thru Trucks (Laurel Street) – Response from the State Department of Transportation who has forwarded the request to the Office of State Traffic Control Commission; pending a response.
- b. Speed Study (Strong Street) – Deputy Chief Tracy provided information from the speed study conducted at the Strong Street and Green Street location for a period of several days which allowed us to track trends looking at the standard 85th percentile. It was determined that most motorists are in compliance with posted speed limits. We will convey the study outcomes to Mr. and Mrs. Cacace of 25 Green Street.

12. New Business

a. Request Civil Service initiate the testing process for Police Officer

Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to request Civil Service initiate the testing process for police officer; seconded by Commissioner DiSilvestro. Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Consider and act upon a resolution approving and authorizing Edward Lennon, as Chief of the East Haven Police Department to complete and execute a School Resource Officer (SRO) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the East Haven Police Department and East Haven Public Schools

Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to consider and act upon a resolution approving and authorizing Edward Lennon, as Chief of the East Haven Police Department to complete and execute an SRO Memorandum of Agreement: *“Be it resolved, that Edward Lennon, as Chief of the East Haven Police Department, is authorized and directed by the East Haven Police Commission to execute and to deliver any and all document(s) on behalf of the East Haven Police Department and the Town of East Haven to effectuate said Agreement;”* seconded by

Commissioners DiSilvestro and Romans. Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Discussion and approval of revised policies 302.8 (Weapons and Weapon Storage), 406.8 (Less Lethal Force Effective), 437.6 (K9 Unit), 451.1 (Police Radios & Communication)

Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to approve revised policies 302.8 (Weapons and Weapon Storage), 406.8 (Less Lethal Force Effective), 437.6 (K9 Unit), 451.1 (Police Radios & Communication) en masse effective April 15, 2021; seconded by Commissioners DiSilvestro and Romans. Voice Vote: All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, Chairman Carbo asked Chief Lennon for an update on the Town parking ordinance. Chief Lennon explained that multiple aspects of the parking ordinance are being evaluated. Along with the Town Administration, members of the Town Council and the Town Attorney, it is our intention to have a working plan sometime in April ahead of the parking issues typical in the summer months. It would be a two-fold process which would require the approval of the Commission. There will be enough time to post the necessary parking signage.

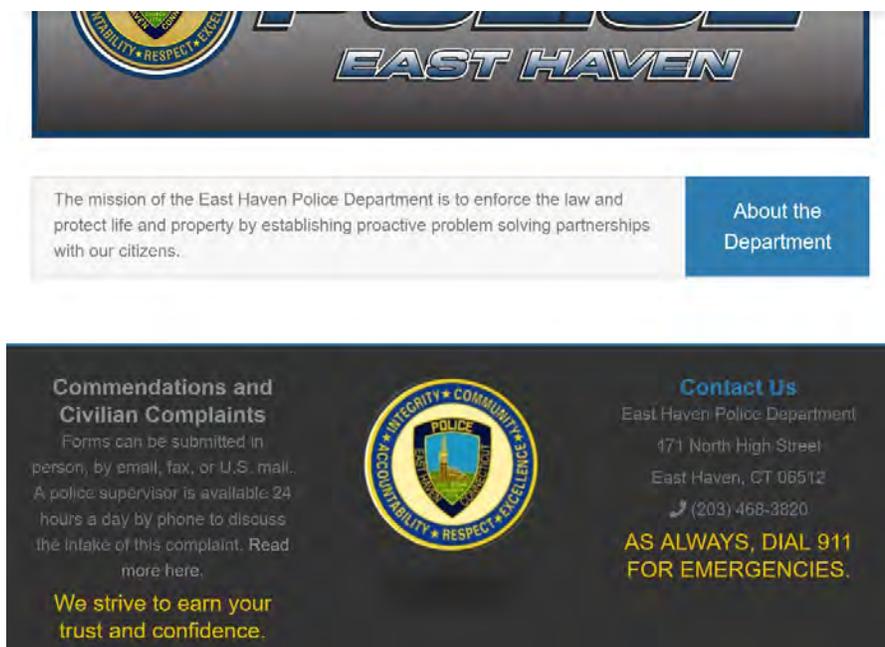
Vice Chairman Balletto made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioners Romans and DiSilvestro. Chairman Carbo adjourned the meeting at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

[Audio recording on file – duration 23:07]

NOTE: Our “Contact Us” can be found on the main page of the East Haven Police Department website:



The screenshot displays the East Haven Police Department website. At the top, there is a banner with the department's name and logo. Below this, a mission statement is presented: "The mission of the East Haven Police Department is to enforce the law and protect life and property by establishing proactive problem solving partnerships with our citizens." To the right of the mission statement is a blue button labeled "About the Department".

Below the mission statement, there is a section titled "Commendations and Civilian Complaints" which states: "Forms can be submitted in person, by email, fax, or U.S. mail. A police supervisor is available 24 hours a day by phone to discuss the intake of this complaint. Read more here." Below this text is a yellow button that says "We strive to earn your trust and confidence."

To the right of the "Commendations and Civilian Complaints" section is the "Contact Us" section, which includes the department's address: "East Haven Police Department, 471 North High Street, East Haven, CT 06512" and the phone number "(203) 468-3820". Below the contact information is a yellow button that says "AS ALWAYS, DIAL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES."