



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

**The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Town Hall South Conference Room
3 Main Street, Newtown**

MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Present: Joel Faxon, Brian Budd, Joan Plouffe, Andy Sachs
Absent: Scott Cicciari

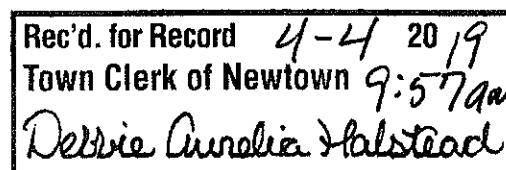
Also Present: Chief James Viadero, Capt. Vanghele, seven members of the public and one member of the press.

Commissioner Faxon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Public Participation: **Brian Donnelly**, 2 Longview Heights Rd., spoke about traffic and parking issues related to Ferris Creamery saying employees direct customers to park on Longview and they park on both sides of the road, making it difficult to pass through. Mr. Donnelly expressed concern about the ability for emergency vehicles to be able to access the road. Additionally, people sitting in the cars, playing loud music interferes with quality of life. This is particularly a concern on weekends and holidays. Chief Viadero is aware of the traffic issue; signs have been posted on other roads and he will look into putting signage on Longview and will meet again with the Ferris family. Chief Viadero thanked Mr. Donnelly for coming forward with this concern. Commissioner Faxon said the police department is very responsive to complaints. **Carolyn Sepi**, 83 Toddy Hill Rd., said the sign really makes a difference, thanked the police commission but stated a sign is needed for the other side also. **Judy Matos**, 2 Clearview Dr., is glad the sign is back but thinks drivers ignore signs. People driving south drive very fast; the ones driving north slow down but speed up again after passing the sign. Chief Viadero said enforcement continues, they are out there and he is hoping for better results once the two permanent signs are installed. **Pete Sepi**, 83 Toddy Hill Rd., stated there are loud horns and cars passing.

Police Union Participation: none

Consideration and action on the minutes of November 6, 2018: Commissioner Plouffe moved to accept the minutes of March 5, 2019. Commissioner Sachs seconded. Motion unanimously passed.



Chief's Report: Speaking of the tragedy of last week, Chief Viadero stated he was proud of the officers and thoughts and condolences go out to the family. There will be click it or ticket enforcement relative to a bus stop project; there will be enhanced enforcement. Toddy Hill Road and Rte. 25 are always a priority. Officers will be spread out in the most problematic areas. Officer James is on special assignment for six weeks, allowing him to see a different side of policing and working with the courts. Relative to OSHA alarms, the device has to be louder than the machinery being operated. The town ordinance cannot supersede OSHA. Chief Viadero will continue to speak with the complainant.

Old Business:

- a.) **Police Building Update:** There will be a meeting with the building and site committee, the general contractor and the architect on Friday to discuss next steps. In May the building will be fenced in; pre-demolition is expected in June. Everything is on schedule.

Correspondence: Letters of Appreciation: none.

New Business:

- a.) **Fairfield Hills Crosswalk Study:** A traffic report relative to traffic and speeding complaints at Fairfield Hills was discussed. Some alternatives to traffic calming are raised cross walks. Areas to consider are the NYA and the Community Center. No action needed as this is a work in progress. An additional campus concern is construction at the brewery. Capt. Vanghele has spoken to NYA about the pick-up area. The fire lane and the pedestrian crosswalk will be re-stripped. NYA will also put up no parking signs. Chief Viadero will be meeting with a resident, the First Selectman and Fred Hurley regarding traffic calming high visibility crosswalks.

Commissioners Participation: none.

Public Participation: Carolyn Sepi asked how officers get a specific vehicles. It depends on what sector they are assigned to.

Adjournment: Having no further business to report the police commissioners adjourned their regular meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Marcinek, Clerk*