

**The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018
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, Scott Cicciari, Joan Plouffe, Andy Sachs

Also Present: Chief James Viadero, Capt. Christopher Vanghele, Department of Public Works Director Fred Hurley, ten members of the public and one members of the press.

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

Public Participation: **John Glaberson**, 2 Valley Field Road North said online information indicates other town roads have higher accident rates than Alberts Hill. Additionally, a spreadsheet to calculate signage severity rating listed Alberts Hill as optional. He said activity on social media show that residents know the problem areas. Chief Viadero met with the state and asked them to scale back on Alberts Hill signage. Accidents are not the only indicator of why it's a rural road concern. The engineer should have a final report soon; the town has asked them to scale back. Mr. Glaberson said residents of Brushy Hill and Butterfield are in favor of more signage. **Pete Sepi**, 83 Toddy Hill Road, asked what the plan was for the speed sign in the winter. He also noted that if a car goes fast enough the speed trailer doesn't pick it up. Capt. Vanghele can look to get the cut off changed. Chief Viadero said the town is still waiting for FEMA reimbursement; funding will go to capital requests. Chief Viadero will also ask for it in budget discussions and can apply for grants. Enforcement will continue and the speed trailer will stay out until inclement weather. **Bill Duffy**, Pilgrim Lane asked about the Toddy Hill Bridge. The current project is a town project which will be in conjunction with the reconfiguration of Rte. 34 and exit 11. Mr. Hurley said bridge plans are at the Public Works garage and he also has conceptual plans of the slip ramp onto I-84. **Al Huppenthal** asked about the curve signs, as he arrived after the earlier discussion. Chief Viadero reiterated what he reported to Mr. Glaberson.

Police Union Participation: none.

Consideration and action on the minutes for Sept. 4, 2018. Commissioner Plouffe moved to accept the minutes of Sept. 4, 2018. Commissioner Budd seconded. All in favor.

Chiefs Report: Chief Viadero said that two vehicles have been stolen, both with key fobs in them. Three arrests were made involving a stolen car that got off of Rte. 84 into Ardi Court. Another stolen car out of Danbury hit a guard rail near Bancroft and Pole Bridge. A Code Red went out on that as it was near the time school was let out and there was a lot of police activity. Motor vehicle and arrest activity has been steady. There are dates for range recertification. Next November Dr. McCabe's report will be ready. There was an overdose, although narcan was administered, the resident expired at Danbury Hospital. There will be a Sergeant exam; there currently is not a vacancy but there needs to be an established list. There will be tours of the current and proposed police facility sites on Oct. 13 and Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Oct. 6 is Newtown Day at Fairfield Hills. Also at Fairfield Hills the Police Canine Challenge will be held. The rescheduled awards ceremony will be held on Oct. 16.

Old Business: Sate Road Construction Update: The Rte. 302 is nearing completion. The temporary speed tables on side streets will be removed. The Toddy Hill Road bridge project is going well. The Church Hill project was delayed and is ongoing. The Pecks Lane project is ongoing and on schedule.

Striping of Roadway: Commissioner Cicciari explained the work of the subcommittee to Mr. Hurley. Section 3 of the guidelines is very specific about the standard. Mr. Hurley is satisfied to work with the standard, which provides clarity. By April there is typically a list of roads relative to the budget, which will allow a 60-90 day window to review. Commissioner Budd asked about the rate, per mile for striping. Mr. Hurley said if there is a commitment to the standard it will be worked around. The item for striping simply has to be put in as part of the road project; the busiest roads will take priority. Mr. Hurley said that even if a road isn't striped there still has to be stop bars. Commissioner Faxon said a standard is important as far as safety, consistency and transparency.

Commissioner Faxon moved to add to the agenda discussion and action on road striping standards.
Commissioner Sachs seconded. All in favor.

Commissioner Plouffe moved that our standards for the striping of Newtown roads shall be in conformance with the federal standards as set forth in the MUTCD. Upon the adoption of the annual budget, and the confirmation of an approved list of road pavement, the new striping and re-striping by the Director of highways, said list will be forwarded to the Board of Police Commissioners for review and approval of painted markings and striping. Anything arising out of an unusual or unplanned circumstance will come to the Board of Police Commissioners with at least 30 days' notice. Commissioner Cicciari seconded. All in favor.

Correspondence: none.

New Business: none.

Commissioners Participation: Commissioner Faxon stated that he had the pleasure to present Chief Viadero with the Distinguished Chief Awards, which is presented annually by the CT Police Commissioners Association. There were 250 people in attendance. It is a very well deserved award. The vote comes from a nomination not related to the Newtown department and presented through, and up through, the decision makers at the statewide Police Commissioners Association. The award is in recognition of Chief Viaderos great work and great leadership. Capt. Vangehele attended, along with many, many of Newtown officers, which speaks to the relationship with the force and the respect they have for him. Congratulations. Chief Viadero said it is an honor to serve with the officers and to serve the community.

Public Participation: Bill Duffy asked about white lines on the side of roads. Chief Viadero said it depends on the width of the road. They are more typically on state road. Commissioner Faxon said if we qualify for that type of striping the commission will work in conjunction with Fred Hurley.

Adjournment: Having no further business report of police commissioners adjourned their regular meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Att:

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Marcinek*, Clerk