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Joel Faxon
Brian Budd
Scott Cicciari
Neil Chaudhary
Stephen Sedensky

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

POLICE COMMISSION

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 6:30 P.M.
191 South Main Street, Newtown, CT
Conference Room

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

Present: Joel Faxon, Scott Cicciari, Neil Chaudhary

Absent: Brian Budd, Stephen Sedensky

Also Present: Capt. Bishop, two members of the public, one member of the press and Officer McCarthy

Chairman Faxon called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation: Karen Martin, 54 Osborn Hill Road, Sandy Hook said there is already a stop sign at Mountain Laurel and Osborn Hill and very few people stop at it. Speeding remains an issue. Ms. Martin thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts.

Police Union Participation: none.

Consideration and action on minutes: Commissioner Cicciari moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2023. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. Chairman Faxon abstained as he was not present at the last meeting. All in favor.

Chief's Report: The department authorized strength is 45, one is on extended leave, one is light duty, and one is in field training resulting in an effective strength of 42 officers. The officer will be off of field training at the end of March, beginning of April.

Old Business:

- a.) **Jordan Hill traffic complaint:** Only 18000 feet of Jordan Hill is in Newtown. Waze directs people to Jordan Hill as a cut through, speeding comes from the Monroe end. A traffic study is limited as it is winter; a radar speed counter will be set up in the spring.
- b.) **Roadway Markings, Procedures:** to be discussed under Block the Box agenda item.
- c.) **Osborn Hill Stop Sign at Mountain Laurel Lane:** Officer Penna conducted a study. Putting a stop sign at the intersection of Osborn Hill and Mountain Laurel would make it a 3 way stop which goes against MUTCD standards. Commissioner Chaudhary noted that stop signs are not used for speed enforcement. The recommendation is not to put a stop sign up. Chairman Faxon concurs and thanked Officer Penna for his work on this study.

Rec'd. for Record 3/8 2023
Town Clerk of Newtown 11:40a
Debbie Aurelia Halstead

- d.) **Signs at Brushy Hill Road at John Beach Road:** The signs that were installed have gone missing. A work order was submitted to have the signs replaced.
- e.) **Update on requests to DOT:** There is no information back from the State DOT yet. Capt. Bishop said that the corner should be mowed regularly and suggested putting up a No Pedestrian Crossing sign.
- f.) **Block the Box Ordinance/Roadway Markings:** State statute dictates locations need to be part of the ordinance. State roads that intersect with Town roads are part of the ordinance. There was discussion on various locations including Newtown High School. Commissioner Chaudhary moved include the following locations in the Do Not Block the Box ordinance request: Country Club Road at Rte. 25, Elm Drive at Rte. 302, Walnut Tree Hill Road at Church Hill Road and Newtown High School at Rte. 34. Commissioner Cicciari seconded. All in favor.
- g.) **Traffic Signal – Protected Left from Riverside Rd. onto Washington Ave.:** Officer Penna noted there were not site line issues and does not recommend further studies or recommendations to DOT.

New Business

- a.) **No Parking Signs at Fairfield Hills Campus:** Currently there are temporary signs. The roads in Fairfield Hills are Town roads therefore the commission has the authority to decide on no parking locations. Commissioner Cicciari wants follow up with NYA relative to parking attendants directing people to park on the grass during events. Chairman Faxon noted there needs to be an alteration to the ordinance so that it can be enforced. Capt. Bishop said that there has been discussion to add verbiage on the signs already at Fairfield Hills stating No Parking on the Grass. Christal Preszler will attend an upcoming meeting to discuss this topic.

Correspondence: none.

Commissioners Participation: Commissioner Chaudhary reminded the commission that the April meeting will be Held a week later, on April 11.

Adjournment: Having no further business the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners adjourned at 7:09p.m.

Susan Marcinek, clerk

APR 11 2019
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