



City of Ansonia

CONNECTICUT 06401

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

COMMISSIONERS

Nicholas L. Amico, President

Ann Pitney, Vice President

David Casseti, Secretary

Dennis M. Phipps, Commissioner

Bob Goldson, Commissioner

REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

5:00 PM

Erlingheuser Room

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner David Casseti chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

All those present rose for the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

At the request of the Chairman, the Recording Secretary called the roll. The following Commissioners were present.

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Commissioner Nicholas L. Amico			X
Commissioner Ann Pitney			X
Commissioner David Casseti	X		
Commissioner Bob Goldson	X		
Commissioner Frank Tyszka	X		

Also in attendance:
 Chief Kevin J. Hale, Alderman Scott Nihill

Recording Secretary recorded three Commissioners present at the time of the roll call. The Chairman declared a quorum and proceeded with the agenda of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the January 6, 2010, organizational and regular meetings. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept both the January 6, 2010, organizational and regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti (Chair)			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

PUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman asked if there was anyone present to speak during the public session to please state their name and address for the record. Chairman also noted that each person would have 3 minutes to speak during the public session.

Frank Heusser Jr.
27 Prindle Ave.
Ansonia, CT 06401

Frank Heusser- Frank Heusser, 27 Prindle Ave. and also a managing member of Frank’s LLC. Last month I came to a meeting to bring up an issue of Sergeant Owens. I told the commission that if I mentioned about this they were going to come after me. A week later after this I had cops come down, harassing me about parking while I’m trying to hook up a vehicle. The last I knew, when a tow truck has its lights going it’s picking up a vehicle. He’s allowed to be on the side of the road, on the sidewalk if he is in the course of doing his business. That’s what I was doing. The officer came over, harassed me. You know, I told you it was going to happen. I asked for the Boards help last week to investigate this so that the harassments don’t happen, and it happens. I would like for the Board to please look into this and to have it stopped. (Cell phone ringing...**Chairman-** excuses me, go ahead.) The other thing I would like to know is how come the State Police is not doing this investigation? I don’t feel the City is able to do this

investigation, there's too much tight quarters. It's all brass. It's everybody with brass it's not with patrolman. When Lieutenant Williams was here they sent out State Police, Mustafa State Police. All of a sudden now it's Louie Owens, now it's going to stay in, you know, in the department. You had...the police department knew about this, the mayor knew about this since March of last year and nothing was done. I feel that this is going to be brushed under the carpet. I would like to see the State Police come in and do the investigation. I don't think the police department can do a thorough and complete investigation when one of their own. I think it would be fair to call in an outside source like the Chief said. Call in an outside source to make it fair. And the other thing would be is the parking on Wakelee Avenue. I see there is some kind of parking study, when is that going to be released to the public? **Chairman-** Probably next month. **Frank Heusser-** Next month? **Chairman-** Right. **Frank Heusser-** Can I have to F.O.I. that to get a copy of that early? **Chief Hale-** No. **Frank Heusser-** No, I mean is there a reason for that or... **Chief Hale-** It's still in the works. **Frank Heusser-** Okay. And this is the officer here; I'm talking about that's harassing me. **Commissioner Goldson-** Frank just for my own...our clearance...you know for our understanding, can you be...could you put this in writing? Like you say they're harassing you, be specific...**Frank Heusser-** Sure...**Commissioner Goldson-**...as to what charges...you know when you say harassment...**Frank Heusser-** Sure what would like for me too, would you like my attorney to make it out to you or would you like for him to make it out to the Police Chief. **Commissioner Goldson-** The Board of Police Commissioners. **Frank Heusser-** The Board of Police Commissioners. **Commissioner Goldson-** Yes, please. **Frank Heusser-** I'll be more than happy...**Chief Hale-** Commissioner there is a process that everybody goes through... **Commissioner Goldson-**...Well you know he's say...**Chief Hale-**...when they file a complaint there is a process. There is a form that has to be filled out and notarized. That's what everybody else does. That's what we do. **Commissioner Goldson-**Does he... **Chief Hale-** Everybody has a chance to get one. Fill it out... **Chairman-** Frank, Frank go to the police department (inaudible) Frank Heusser- Would you like it CC'd to you, because the Chief isn't going to do anything about it because it's one of his click's. **Chairman-** No, alright Frank... **Frank Heusser-** I'm being serious. **Chairman-** Follow the procedure. Go and fill out the form alright. **Frank Heusser-** I'll fill out the form. **Commissioner Goldson-** Yes. Put it in writing so that we can know what you're talking about. **Chairman-**...it's substantiated, please. **Frank Heusser-** No problem, I've got a lot of evidence. **Commissioner Goldson-** Yes just...**Frank Heusser-** I have a lot of documentation. **Commissioner Goldson-** Yes...**Frank Heusser-** Just like they're make...they're telling me, this officer here is telling them I'm making frivolous accusations against a... **Chief Hale-** Alright, Commissioner, if I may, this is in superior court, this is not the forum. We cannot discuss this. **Chairman-** That's right. **Frank Heusser-** No this is in regards to Sergeant Owens. He's saying I am making frivolous accusations against him. **Chairman-** Listen, Frank go fill out the forms. **Frank Heusser-** And I'll CC to the police commission also. **Commissioner Goldson-** Thank you. That's all.

Chairman asked if there was anyone also from the public that wishes to speak?

Ruben Ramos and Denaja Bishop

19 Winter Street

Ansonia, CT 06401

Ruben Ramos- My name is Ruben Ramos from 19 Winter Street. I have been constantly harassed by the next door neighbors and the Animal Control Officer. She's been calling my phone telling me she's a cop and will have me arrested. All based on my dogs sitting at the end of my block. I wake up this morning to take my kids to school. She sitting at the corner telling me my dogs have been out. I get up at 6am in the morning; the dogs don't go out until I get back from dropping off the kids at 8:30 in the morning. I called the Chief's office today. I spoke to the Chief's Secretary, she wrote down everything. I'm not back mouthing the Chief or anything but I never got a phone call back today and this has been going on for how long? **Denaja**

Bishop- Since the summer. **Ruben Ramos**- Since the summer time. The next door neighbor is constantly kicking my fence. One of my dogs did get out of the fence and kill my neighbor's dog. I got rid of the dog. And she's still telling me that she wants my other dog's euthanized and their heads removed to see if they have rabies. After I did the 18 days quarantined I spoke to one of my friends in Bridgeport Animal Control and they said it was dog on dog. They really don't usually... **Commissioner Goldson**- What? **Ruben Ramos**- Dog on dog, when a dog attacks another dog. But the dog was going with his instinct. The alcoholic, marijuana smoking son kick the fence and my dog went after him from underneath the fence. We also called numerous times for the cops to come through because they were smoking weed on the back porch. We made statements on it. The cops did come through and she said they were alcoholics and so on and so forth. **Chief Hale**- Alright, let me ask you a question. Are your dogs licensed? **Ruben**

Ramos- Yes. **Chief Hale**- Do you have proof of license? **Ruben Ramos**- Yes. Chief Hale- Okay and you know now that the law covers dog on dog attacks. **Ruben Ramos**- Yes this was in the summer. **Chief Hale**- this change was like two years ago. **Ruben Ramos**- Yes. **Chief Hale**- Alright, okay. **Commissioner Goldson**- Where is this? **Chairman**- Winter Street. **Ruben Ramos**- Winter Street the one that you were trying to make it a one-way. **Commissioner Goldson**- Yes. **Ruben Ramos**- This is a constant thing. She called before and made a complaint with animal control it's like she's against me. Everyday she's driving by, she pulled up yesterday. I got out of my car and she's like your dogs where outside the yard. I was like... **Chairman**- Who told you this? **Ruben Ramos**- Jeanie the Animal Control. And I am like no I didn't I just got home and she was like yes you did you just in your car and just got home. I went to like 4 or 5 neighbors and they said that my dogs have not gotten out of the yard since that whole thing happened. But they are hitting the fence kicking the fence so on and so forth. **Commissioner Goldson**- I am confused. You said your neighbors complaining? **Ruben**

Ramos- Yes for my animals, for my dogs. **Commissioner Goldson**- So your neighbor is complaining and the police officer. **Ruben Ramos**- No she's not a police officer.

Commissioner Goldson- Oh okay. **Ruben Ramos**- No she's Animal Control. **Commissioner Goldson**- She's your neighbor. **Ruben Ramos**- No, no, no, the neighbor is calling Jeanie. They're friends. They know each other and she's going around telling people that my dogs are vicious and so on and so forth when I have had 4 or 5 cops in my yard petting my dogs before. They are only vicious when provoked. **Commissioner Goldson**- How many dogs do you have? **Ruben Ramos**- I had 3 now I have 2. **Chief Hale**- This case, this is back and forth. This is being investigated by the Animal Control Officer; there is also an officer involved. **Chairman**- So this is being investigated. **Chief Hale**-I have not called him back. **Ruben Ramos**- Yes well she has called DCF on me saying that my daughter...I got a letter from DCF saying that there is no neglect or the dogs are not vicious around the baby. It stretches farther than that. And I have not seen cop, and yesterday I did not see a cop up there. And she told me what ever makes me feel like a man, because I told her that I was going to call the cops and she said I am a cop. What ever make you feel like a man, do what you have to do. I have over 75 (inaudible) **Chairman**- Are you going to look into... **Chief Hale**- It's already being investigated. **Chairman**- It's already being investigated. **Chief Hale**- It's an active case on the dogs. **Chairman**- Okay. **Denaja Bishop**- it's not really the neighbors it's more so Jeanie. Every morning she's either parked in front of the house or she'll park 3 houses down by the corner and it's a never ending battle. I mean we where, you know we were (inaudible) with her. We went and asked if she needed us to volunteer at the Ansonia Animal Shelter over you know next to Stop and Shop. We asked three times. We brought in collars, food for the dogs and you know ever since that accident and our dogs were reported it's been an ongoing thing. I have Brooklyn, one of my dogs, I was walking on a lease, harness, had his collar, his tags on for his license and rabies and everything and oh your dogs better be licensed or I'm going to take him away. You know, it's just a constant harassment with her. I have no problem... **Chairman**- And your dogs are licensed? **Denaja Bishop**- Correct. **Ruben Ramos**- I mean they probably have to be renewed...**Chairman**- In June. **Ruben Ramos**- Yes June. **Denaja Bishop**- In June they have to be relicensed. You know I just want her to leave me and my family alone you know we have a 4 month old daughter you know (inaudible). **Ruben Ramos**-...she came into our yard like unannounced, we weren't home. Our neighbor said that they saw her drive up and down the street. We have neighbors that will tell us everything like 4 or 5 cop cars since like 2 o'clock yesterday driving up and down the street and you know she'll see me Stop and Shop and make some smart remark. I fed up with it. **Secretary**- I'm sorry, can I just have you first and last name? **Denaja Bishop**- Sure, Denaja Bishop. **Secretary**-Can you spell that? **Denaja Bishop**- (Name was spelled out) **Chairman**- It's an ongoing investigation then, and the Chief will talk to Jeanie. **Secretary**- (Confirmed last name)

Chairman asked if the was anyone also from the public that wishes to speak?

Ken Plavnicky
15 Mountain View Road
Ansonia, CT 06401

Ken Plavnicky- One question I have is about Rutland Street. I visit Rutland Street quite often and there is no parking. Everybody from Griffin Hospital parks there so when I go to make my visit over there I have to park 3 blocks away (inaudible). All the cars on the road, you can tell they have the Derby Griffin Hospital sticker on there so they're probably... **Chairman**- Well that's who they are. That's who's parking there. **Ken Plavnicky**- Yes I know, that's what I'm saying. I mean is there anything that can be done about that is that, I don't know if it's illegal parking or you know... **Chief Hale**- No, the parking open to anybody. **Chairman**- Right. **Ken Plavnicky**- That's why I just asked okay...don't get sarcastic (inaudible)...do we have any rights to park, you know (inaudible). **Chief Hale**- Streets in Ansonia are open parking to everybody. You can park... **Ken Plavnicky**- So anybody from the hospital in Derby is allowed to park right on the street. **Commissioner Goldson**- Certainly. **Ken Plavnicky**- Just thought I'd ask. Second question I've got is, what's going on with this fella here is a total joke okay. I believe he is being harassed by the town, by the Chief, by all the brass that are up there. He's a tax payer, he's a business man, he supports the church. If anybody know's about how he supports the church, his name is in the back of the bulletin. I believe he is just being harassed. I don't know what is going on here. I mean give the guy a little respect. The Chief just said in today's paper about the state of the economy. He got the lowest bid for repairs. Why isn't he offered a repair? **Chief Hale**- There was no bid. **Chairman**- There was no bid. **Ken Plavnicky**- Okay but he's the lowest bid, you're worried about the state economy... **Chief Hale**- There was no bid. **Ken Plavnicky**-...he was going be your lowest bid. **Chief Hale**- There was no bid. **Ken Plavnicky**- Are you worried about the state economy? Frank Heusser- (Inaudible) **Chief Hale**- He's talking. **Ken Plavnicky**- Are you worried about the state economy? **Chief Hale**- There was no bid. **Ken Plavnicky**- Are you worried about the state economy? **Chairman**- Okay thank you for your input. **Ken Plavnicky**- Wait, wait, wait, I'm not done yet okay. **Chairman**- Okay. Wait I told you told me you had 2 things sir. Ken you told me you had 2 things. **Ken Plavnicky**- This is ongoing with Frank okay. **Chairman**- Go ahead. **Ken Plavnicky**- Sergeant Owens. I've been a thorn in Sergeant Owens' back since I moved her from Bridgeport 20 years ago. What kind of respect is that? What do I about...I got a police officer telling me that I am a thorn in his back since I moved here. I pay \$5000.00 in taxes a year, how am I a thorn in his back? Do I deserve to get treated like that? **Chairman**- I don't know what you're exactly... **Ken Plavnicky**-n Well I'm just saying, he told me that you know. I don't have to get into specifics but that's not right to talk to anybody like that, alright. The garden hose incident, that's a joke, it's not funny! **Commissioner Goldson**- Am I laughing? **Chairman**- Now you are jumping on to something else. **Ken Plavnicky**- That's part of it, that's part of Mustafa, that's part of what's going on. **Chairman**-Okay so now you are going into 4 things. **Ken Plavnicky**-Look at how much money we are wasting on courts and paying Mustafa for not being

on the job over a stinking garden hose that could have been investigated internally. Chairman- Okay. **Ken Plavnicky**- It's a joke. You read the papers and the internet and it's like a laughing stock you know. I hear it in Bridgeport or in Stratford or where ever I go. **Commissioner Goldson**- any body else.

Chairman asked if there was anyone also from the public that wishes to speak?

Christopher Flynn
Ansonia Police Department
2 Elm Street
Ansonia, CT 0640

Christopher Flynn- I just wanted to, I was President of the Union for years and I just wanted to let everybody know that Officer Jim Frolish took over and I just want to thank the Board for their help and support. It was a smooth relationship and I just wanted to thank the Board for all of their time. Secondly, I am the officer that's allegedly harassing him. He doesn't know that the definition of harassment but it's Sergeant Chris Flynn for the record. Thank you.

Ruben Ramos- Excuse me. Can I add something to that about Jeanie. **Chairman**- Go ahead.

Ruben Ramos- Being the owner of as many animals if I wanted too, she calls Oxford, New Haven Pound, she called all the pounds and told them that I fight Pitts. **Commissioner**

Goldson- that you fight Pitts? **Ruben Ramos**- That I fight..My dogs are Pit-bulls...

Commissioner Goldson- Oh, oh, oh. **Chairman**- You don't do that right sir? **Denaja Bishop**-

No. **Chairman**- Okay the Chief is going to be talking to Jeanie alright. **Ruben Ramos**- Yes.

Chairman- Okay is there any body else from the public that wishes to speak? Is there any body from the public that wishes to speak? I'll ask a third time, is there any body from the public that wishes to speak? Without that I'll close the public session and go into monthly reports.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the monthly reports. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti (Chair)			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman asked for a motion to accept the communications a place them of file as presented.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the minutes and place them on file.

Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico (Chair)						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

- A. Letter dated January 6, 2010, from Mr. Warren Connors thanking the Board for allowing him to speak at the January meeting regarding Winter Street. **No action needed.**
- B. Letter dated January 22, 2010, from Planning and Zoning to the Board, regarding speeding on Hull Street. **Chief Hale informed the Board that that area has been monitored for the last 14-15 days and will continue to be monitored, and when the weather gets warmer Metro-Count will be placed in that area. Commissioner Tyszka asked Chief Hale Hull Street was the only street that was being monitored. Chief hale responded that at this time Hull Street is the only one being monitored.**
- C. Letter dated February 2, 2010, from Chief Kevin J. Hale to the Board, regarding his request for the Board to approve policies 3.602, 4.002, 5.408, 5.410. **Chairman asked for Commissioner Goldson’s suggestion on the policies presented to him. Commissioner stated he read through the policies and made a motion to accept policies 3.062, 4.002, 5.408, 5.410. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico (Chair)						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1. Mayor Della Volpe’s response regarding Mr. Clayton Jackson’s request to have a street light returned to the corner of Tremont Street and Beaver Street. **Chief Hale informed the Board that he has spoken to the Mayor regarding this request and is awaiting his response.**
- 2. Planning and Zoning’s request to impose the same parking restrictions to the TEAM school located on Howard Avenue as the Boys and Girls Club. **Chief Hale informed the**

Board that he has reviewed this request and is in favor of the TEAM School having “10 min parking, M-F, from 7am to 6pm” to be placed in front of the school. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept Chief Hale’s recommendation. Commission Tyszka Seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico (Chair)						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

3. Wakelee Avenue study. Chief Hale stated that the Wakelee Avenue Study is currently in progress and hopes to have a completed report for the March Board of Police Commissioners meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman asked the members present if there was any new business. There was none.

ORAL REPORT:

Personnel:

-One officer on Light Duty. One officer is out due to surgery

Miscellaneous:

-The budget hearing will be transferred to B.O.A.T. next Tuesday. Further hearings should be scheduled.

-The In-Car reporting system is working. Officer’s can now type their reports in cruisers, which allows them more time on the road.

-The fingerprint system has been delivered and the training for that will begin soon.

-Distracted Driver enforcement is going very well.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to accept Chief Hale’s report. Commissioner Goldson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico (Chair)						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Goldson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Nicholas L. Amico (Chair)						X
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			

Meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Lester
Recording Secretary
Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority