

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, April 7, 2010
5:00 PM
Erlingheuser Room

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Nicholas L. Amico chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:10 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 Cassetti			X
Commissioner Bob Goldson	X		
Commissioner Frank Tyszka	X		

Also in attendance:

Chief Kevin J. Hale, Alderman 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 March 3, 2010, regular meeting. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the March 3, 2010, 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 (Chair)			X			
Ann Pitney						X
David Casseti						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.

Ken Plavnicky
15 Mountain View Road
Ansonia, CT 06401

I'm disgusted with the garden hose case. The \$250 million dollar garden hose case. Where is that money going to come from, besides the tax payer's money...the Chief's pocket? **Amico**- Excuse me... **Plavnicky**- Where's the money coming from? **Amico**- The money would be coming from the City. **Plavnicky**- Yeah, very nice huh. **Amico**-That's correct. **Plavnicky**-It's good? **Amico**- That is correct. **Plavnicky**- You just said it's good? **Goldson**- No he said it's correct... **Amico**- No, I didn't say it was good, I said its correct okay. **Plavnicky**- That's terrible, for a quarter of a million dollars that comes...for a lousy garden hose. **Tyszka**- So are you condoning... **Amico**-You're condoning a theft are you? **Plavnicky**- I'm just disgusted. **Tyszka**- No, no, no, what are you saying, you're condoning... (**Multiple people speaking**) **Heusser**- What happened in the court of law, he was proven innocent. **Amico**- Gentlemen, gentlemen, this is going to be an orderly meeting otherwise you are going to have to leave, I'm sorry. **Plavnicky**- (**inaudible**) I'm telling you the way I feel. **Amico**- That's fine, just keep your voice down. Keep your voice down. **Plavnicky**- I can't keep my voice down, that's how I talk, loud okay. **Amico**- Well it's too loud okay. **Plavnicky**- Okay, I'm loud. Let me talk. **Amico**- Keep it down. **Plavnicky**- Second of all, Bridgeport and New Haven, the Chief has to live in the town where he's a Chief. Why doesn't that happen in Ansonia? Why can't he have to live in town here? Are the taxes too high? **Goldson**- (**inaudible**) **Plavnicky**- Are there any by-laws or any ordinances where he's suppose to live here? **Goldson**- The charter doesn't call for that.

Plavnicky- The charter should call for it. How can I have put in the charter that the Chief should live here? **Goldson**- The Board of Aldermen. **Amico**- Then go see the Board of Aldermen okay. **Plavnicky**- Okay. **Amico**-If you've got something...you have...you have... (**Amico and Plavnicky speaking at the same time-inaudible**) **Plavnicky**-... (**Inaudible**) \$100 grand to live here, plus a car, plus gas... **Amico**- Excuse me, excuse me! You have some complaints... **Plavnicky**- Yeah. **Amico**-...that don't belong here okay, they belong to the Board of Aldermen okay. **Plavnicky**-... I didn't realize, I thought you guys were the ones who wrote the charter for the police department. **Amico**-... and I'm telling you to keep your voice down... **Plavnicky**- I am keeping my voice down, that's how I talk man. **Amico**- Okay, that's too bad. **Plavnicky**- Well that's how I talk. **Amico**-I think you're very loud. **Plavnicky**- Well that's how I talk. **Amico**- So try to keep it down... **Plavnicky**- ...That's how I talk. **Amico**-...otherwise you are going to be excused from here okay, alright. **Plavnicky**- Okay, number three I have is the park across Olson Drive. Why are they allowed to hang out there after dark? That's a (**inaudible**) park right? (**Inaudible**). **Goldson**- It's not a park. **Plavnicky**- That's not a park? But they're allowed to hang out there after dusk? **Amico**- Are you allowed to hang out on your street after dusk? **Plavnicky**- that's my street, where I live and own. What's so funny about that pal (**gesturing to Commissioner Goldson**) **Amico**- Excuse me. **Goldson**- Because that's where they live...that's where they live. **Amico**- Excuse me. **Plavnicky**- They don't live on the benches, they hang out by the benches after dusk. That shouldn't be. **Amico**- Who says it shouldn't be. **Plavnicky**- I did. **Amico**- Well that's too bad. **Plavnicky**- You can't hang out at the parks, you can't go to the Nature Center, you can't go to Colony Park. **Amico**- Then I say to you, go to the Board of Aldermen and tell them (**inaudible**) okay. **Plavnicky**- (**Inaudible**) Okay so everything is the Board of Aldermen (**inaudible**) to them. **Amico**-Fine, right, that's it. **Plavnicky**- Number four, why is he here? (**Gesturing to Officer Magera**) **Amico**- Because I want him here. **Plavnicky**- Is he on overtime? **Amico**- Who cares! He maybe... **Plavnicky**- I care, I'm a tax payer. **Amico**- I'm running the department not you sir! **Plavnicky**- Okay well that's nonsense then. If you're running the department, you have a cop here!... **Amico**- Would you get this guy...would you get him out of here please! **Plavnicky**- He could be at Olson Drive (**inaudible**) **Amico**- Would you get him out of here please. **Plavnicky**- You can't face the facts! **Amico**-Get him out of here please. If you can't speak right, see you around. **Amico**- He doesn't do anything to support the City, all he does is complain.

Chairman asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak in the public session.

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

Frank Heusser...**Amico**- Frank you've got three minutes too Frank. **Frank**- Alright number one...**Amico**- If your going to...**Frank**-Hold on...**Amico**- Excuse me! I'm running this meeting

Frank. **Frank**-I hear that. **Amico**-Okay, you better hear it okay. **Frank**- I want... **Amico**- you'd better hear it, I'm running the meeting and you've got 3 minutes! **Frank**- Alright well give me my three minutes now! **Amico**- As soon as I'm ready I'll give you your three minutes, and if you're going to bring up your innuendos that you've brought up before we don't want to hear them okay. **Frank**- Whatever I bring up I have the facts to prove it, so don't tell me... **Amico**-...Have you written to the department like you were requested? **Frank**- Yes I have. I have to write to the department every time F.O.I. because the Chief tells me! Do you know about those issue? No because your in Florida all the time! What are you doing running the department? **Amico**- Excuse me! Excuse me Frank! **Frank**- So don't tell me about this stuff. **Amico**- Do you want to run it...do you want to speak or do you want to (inaudible) **Frank**- Yes, can I have my time? **Amico**- Okay, you've got three minutes. **Frank**- Good, thank you. **Amico**- But Frank, I'm going tell you, you'd better be a gentlemen otherwise you're going to leave too. **Frank**- That's fine, listen to me. **Amico**- Okay. Frank First thing, I would like to make documentation please Jenn, in them records, when you do the police commission's minutes that Mr. Amico said that condoning the theft of a garden hose. **Tyszka**- No, no, no. **Frank**- Yes, he did say that. **Amico**- I did not say that. **Frank**- Yes he did say that, it's on record. **Amico**- I did not say that. **Tyszka**- He didn't say that. **Frank**- He said about condoning a theft of a garden hose, I want it on record. **Amico**- I did not say that. **Frank**- I will subpoena the tapes. **Amico**- I don't care what you do Frank. (Multiple people speaking-inaudible) **Amico**- Don't put in the words you want to put in Frank. **Frank**- Listen I'm not. I'm telling you what you said. My own ears heard it. I'm sorry you don't feel that way. **Amico**- Well apparently your ears are very selective. **Frank**- Next thing I have is, I want to know...I want all of the documentation from these parking studies. I want to see where 91.000 vehicle drove down Wakelee Avenue in a ten day period. I want to see all of these documentations, I want to know that the Metro-Counter properly put down on the street okay. And then I want to know... **Goldson**- Frank, did you write to the Department of Transportation, they handle that. Frank- No the police department handled it, right here in their parking (inaudible)... **Goldson**- the Department of Transportation, they handle it. **Frank**- Wait a minute, it says right here in your letter that you have, unless you guys don't read it, it says that the City had it. The Metro-Counter. **Goldson**- And we sent it to the Department of Transportation. **Frank**- The Metro-Counter, also all of the accidents, do you that there has been two accidents in the past two weeks since you put up the no parking signs? Number three, the Fire Department said they can't get a fire truck down Wakelee Avenue. I have a heavy duty wrecker that will tow a tractor trailer, I can make that turn but it's not okay. I think we need to go over how the people are driving these vehicles. Also, the Chief should live in this town. I think part of this 8.4 tax increase is because of the way the Chief has handled this department, wait a minute I'm not done, please let me finished. **Amico**- Well you're asking a question, your making a statement the Chief should live here. **Frank**- I said he should live here and pay the taxes. **Amico**- That's your opinion right. **Frank**- Wait, I'm a tax payer. I pay more taxes in the City than you do. **Amico**- That is your opinion, how do you know that? **Frank**- I know that. I've got eight trucks here, I have a

business here, I've got a home here. **Amico**- Frank, Frank we are not here to argue... **Frank**- ...next thing... **Amico**- ...We are not here to argue... **Frank**-...and I live here more than you do, you're in Florida have the time so let me finish okay. The Chief here cost the tax payers all this money with a garden hose. I'm a tax payer. I have to pay for his screw ups? You know, the Board needs to review every step he makes because the Chief is lying to the Board and the only thing the Board does is rubber stamp everything the Chief says. I think it's about time the Board steps up to the plate and did something about the Chief. And if they're not then maybe the Board needs to resign along with the Chief. **Amico**- Have you written your complaints to the City like you were asked may times? **Frank**- I wrote may of complaints to the City. **Amico**- No, no, no what you're talking about, okay. **Frank**- I'm just bring it up to you. **Amico**- I haven't seen it. I have not seen any of that. **Frank**- You haven't been here, you've been in Florida! **Amico**- Are you, excuse me! What does that mean? **Frank**-You've been in Florida. **Amico**- what does that mean? **Frank**-What does that mean, you don't know what going on around here (**inaudible**)... **Tyszka**- Times up. **Amico**- Are you kidding me, your way out of line! Your three minutes are over Frank. Your three minutes are over. **Frank Sr.**- He can wait here. **Amico**- And you don't know what you are talking about. Yes Sir.

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

I'm Frank Heusser Sr., I've owned the gas station up there for almost 40 years. **Amico**- yes Sir. **Frank Sr.**- Never had any problems with the old Chief. Everything got along fine with the cops and everything and we were doing good and everything like that. Chief Hale took over, since then we've had, we've been arrested. No fight or anything like that, instead of using common sense with two business owners he arrests somebody and they end up going to court and everything. For 40 years I parked up on Wakelee Avenue. They had a survey. Now all of a sudden he has a survey done or whatever, in control of it, now you've parking signs on both sides of the street. Not just one. When Chippy and everybody came down here and agreed upon, okay one side of the street. All of a sudden they're on both sides. That's the widest street in Ansonia. Why would you put them up on both side and not all of the other rest of the places you can't get by. It's ridiculous. He gets into an argument with the Chief (**Gesturing to Frank Jr.**) down here at one of the meetings, the next day they're up giving us parking tickets that we were legally parked. You guys, and that's what everybody is trying to say in this City is you did not take control of him (**gesturing to the Chief**). You let him do what he wants too. He don't use common sense. And that's it, that's it for me but think about it. **Amico**- Are you through? Thank you, thank you very much. Anybody else who would like to talk? If you do, please identify yourself.

Dawn Morra

40-42 Clover Street
Ansonia, CT 06401

My name Dawn Morra and I live on 40-42 Clover Street. There's accidents that happen near my house on a yearly bases. I am actually afraid to let my son plan out in the yard. My mother is 70 years old, she likes to do gardening, she's always out in the yard. I've asked many times to have a stop sign or something put out there. This is, my house is on the corner of Moulthrop and Clover. Cover at the end, you have to stop. That's where they decided they would put the stop sign. In the winter time, people just slide right threw. My car has been hit six times, my shed has been hit, broke the door off. I've lost about four or five trees and bushes and nothing at all has been done. And I'm trying to figure out what could be done. I mean I pay taxes too and nobody ever does anything but run me around the corner and I never get any answers from anybody and I don't feel like , if I put something up then that going to get damages to so why should I even bother. I have a letter that I have written because I was told to write the letter and send it, then they told me to come here. I also have photographs. I told them about deer on that street. Somebody actually told me, a police officer told me that three deer actually have to be killed in that same area to put up a sign. I thought that was the most absurd thing I have ever heard in my entire life. **Goldson**- You have a letter? **Morra**- I have a letter (**inaudible**) **Amico**- it hasn't been submitted? **Morra**- I don't know how to do that. That is the letter, this isn't the best photo but those are some of the photos that go along with that. **Goldson**- Thank you. **Chief**- Dawn you... it's Dawn right? **Morra**- Yes. **Chief**- You're at the corner of Clover and Moulthrop? **Morra**- Correct. **Chief**- so there's a stop sign at the end of Clover. **Morra**- Yes. But that was years after I had asked but it should be at the center of Moulthrop. There's a slight curve to the road. If you don't make that curve, you end up right in my (**inaudible**) **Chief**- So the car was coming in off of Beaver Street? **Morra**-No, coming down the other way. It's a slight hill and it's a slight curve. **Chief**- Okay I know where it is. **Morra**- This is like six years of, you know every time I hear a noise I'm running out there to see what happened this time. **Chief**- Can I ask who you've talked to? **Morra**- Any number of police officers down there. They've all come to my house. Every person that reported the incidences have come to the house. The cops even roll their eyes at where the signs is and you know, literally I put in there I don't think the sign would do all that much now because the people fly down that hill so fast that even if they had to stop, they're still going to fly right through it. I mean I don't understand. **Chief**- See there are certain regulations on stop sign placement that we have to abide by also. Technically you shouldn't be putting them in the middle of streets but there's more to it than that, you'd have to look at accident data but... **Morra**- Yeah. **Chief**- I mean we'll go out and take a look at it. Someone will follow up with you.

Chairman asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak in the public session. There where none. Public session was closed.

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 (Chair)			X			
Ann Pitney						X
David Cassetti						X
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chairman asked for a motion to accept the communications a place them on file as presented. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the communications 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 March 17, 2010, from Det. Sgt. Lynch to Lieutenant Williams regarding his request for a replacement of handcuffs. (Letter was forwarded to the Board for approval.) **Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve Det. Sgt. Lynch’s request to have his handcuff’s replaced. 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			

B. Letter dated March 18, 2010, from Mr. John Zaleski of the Wakelee Memorial Funeral Home, to the Board regarding his appreciation for the recent improvements to Wakelee Avenue. He would also like to request that the Ansonia Police Department continue surveillance of the area. **Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept Mr. Zaleski letter and place it on file and also comply with the current surveillance of the area. 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			

C. Letter received March 16, 2010, from the U.S. Department of Justice to Chief Kevin Hale, regarding his thanks to the officers who provided assistance in a burglary investigation. **Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the letter of thanks and place a copy in each of the officer's personnel files. 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			

D. Letter dated March 29, 2010 from Chief Kevin J. Hale to the Board regarding approval of policies 3.102, 3.110, 3.111, 3.504, 4.006, 4.016. **Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve the policies listed. 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			

- E. Letter dated March 25, 2010, from Shirley Lindsey-Block Watch Captain (Howard Ave. South) to the Board regarding her request for speed limit signs in the area of Howard Ave. and Grove St. **Chief Hale will be looking into the area for signage placement.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Send Letter to Mr. Jackson notifying him of Acting Mayor Blume’s approval of the street light. **(Letter has been sent)**
2. Send letter to Mr. Nolan denying his request for changes to be made to North State Street and Smith Streets. **(Letter has been sent)**

Chairman also notified the Board of two letter that he had received:

1. Letter dated March 8, 2010, from Acting mayor Blume to Mr. Mai of United Illuminating approving Mr. Jackson request for a street light placement. **FYI only**
2. Letter dated March 15, 2010, to Mr. Galante from the Department of Transportation regarding the Twin Oaks Subdivision. **FYI only**

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman asked the members present if there was any new business.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the nomination that was given for the Brian Phipps Award. 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			

ORAL REPORT:

Personnel:

-Two officers on light duty. One out on Worker’s Compensation, one out sick.

Miscellaneous:

- The Memorial Day Parade route has been changed due to the closing of Maple Street bridge.
- The shots fired call on Jackson Street was not random shooting.
- Online training will begin soon.
- Updating of policies is continuing.
- Public Works Department will be installing new carpeting in the lobby area.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept Chief Hale’s report. 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			

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 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Lester
 Recording Secretary
 Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority