



City of Ansonia

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Ansonia, Connecticut 06401

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, October 5, 2011
5:00 PM
Erlingheuser Room

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nicholas L. Amico 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 Hale
Ed Adamowski, 1st Ward Alderman

Recording Secretary recorded five (5) 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 Amico asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the September 7, 2011, Regular Meeting. Commissioner Pitney made a motion to accept the September 7, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes as written. 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		X			
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

ANSONIA POLICE PENSION

Commissioner Pitney made a motion to deviate from the agenda and allow Mr. Christopher Kachmar of Fiduciary Investments to make his presentation. Commissioner Cassetti 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		X			
David Cassetti		X	X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

At this time Chief Hale introduced Mr. Kachmar to the Commissioners.

Mr. Kachmar gave the Commissioners a copy of the Ansonia Police Pension, Executive Summary, Second Quarter 2011 prepared by Fiduciary Investment Advisors.

Mr. Kachmar presented a brief formal review of the Police Pension. He outlined the status of the account along with the different investments that Fiduciary Investments have made on behalf of the portfolio.

Commissioner Tyszka asked if Fiduciary Investments would ask the Police Commissioners should they want to shift the main principal funds.

Mr. Kachmar said that they would have to ask the Board of Police Commissioners before they shifted funds. He said when the fund needs money they will do an analysis and look at the balance vs. targets and do a cash flow worksheet which is sent to Joseph Miller, Comptroller and Wells Fargo. He said that the managers of the funds all work well together and the Pension fund is up 1.5% and on a one year basis the plan is up 17%.

Chief Hale asked if the City has made any deposits or allocations for this year.

Mr. Kachmar said he didn't believe the City has made any deposits.

Chief Hale asked for a motion to have the Finance Dept. release funds to Wells Fargo for the Police Pension.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to request that the Finance Department release funds to Wells Fargo for the Ansonia Police Pension. 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		X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

Mr. Kachmar thanked Chief Hale and the Board of Police Commissioners.

PUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Amico asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak during the public session.

Grace Rocco
11 Beverly Drive
Ansonia, CT 06401

Ms. Rocco said she is requesting a three (3) way stop sign at Beverly Drive and Highland Avenue. She said there are two more signs on Highland Avenue and they should be at Beverly Drive. She said she has hedges and a high wall however if she stops on Beverly Drive to pull out onto Highland Ave., the cars are speeding all the time. There are a lot of little children living in that area. The autos start at Harris Road and come up and then pick up speed to Prindle Avenue. If they are coming down the other way they are also speeding.

Chairman Amico said someone called him about this speeding. He noted that Ms. Rocco cut her hedges to improve visibility from Beverly Drive. He said at Beverly Drive if you look right you can't see – if you look left you can see.

There was discussion on the traffic pattern for the vehicles coming down Beverly Drive to Highland Ave. If the traffic stays to the right you can't see and it is not the hedges or wall but the way the road is built.

Commissioner Pitney asked the time of day that the speeding is occurring.

Ms. Rocco said night, day – it is all the time.

Tony D'Aiuto
6 Beverly Drive
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. D'Aiuto said he has lived there for 32 years and it is the way the road was built. The Emmett O'Brien students use the road also as a pass through and drive as through there never was a stop sign.

Commissioner Tyszka asked if they need two stop signs or just one stop sign coming up Highland.

Chief Hale said they will take a look at the area and the streets involved.

Ed Adamowski, 1st Ward Alderman

19 Kathy Lane

Ansonia, CT 06401

Alderman Adamowski said the Byron Avenue residents are concerned because there is parking at the end of the street and along with the width of the road leaving no room for a vehicle to pass. Alderman Adamowski presented two (2) pictures of the street for the Board to review. (copies attached) There was brush along the side of road and if Public Works clears it there is parking almost to the corner. If someone wants to turn into Byron from N. Main Street there is a hold up in traffic.

Chief Hale said it is the way Byron Avenue was built. He will take a look at it.

There was discussion on possibly making Byron Avenue a one way street going westbound or take 25 feet to 30 feet for NO PARKING. To make a street one way there is a procedure where you have to get the neighbors to approve it and then make sure there is an adequate way to get out of the streets that were served by Byron Avenue that is now a one way. Emergency vehicles are also a consideration.

Chief Hale said he will look at all of the possibilities.

The Commissioners discussed cutting the brush so that a vehicle can make the turn into Byron Ave. however there are vehicles parked along the side of the street that belong to residents who live on N. Main St. Making a street one way is a big decision and the Commissioners are in favor of having Chief Hale look at the parking situation and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to request Chief Hale look into the parking situation on Byron Avenue and N. Main Street and report back to the Board. Commissioner Pitney 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	X			
David Cassetti	X		X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

Frank Heusser Jr.
Franks LLC
145 Wakelee Avenue
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. Heusser, Jr. said he was at the Board of Police Commissioners meeting last month and he asked the Board to take a look at reinstating him on the rotational tow list.

Chairman Amico said he spoke with the Board and he is not at liberty to discuss it at this time however they want to take a look at what is going on. He said hopefully he will have an answer for him in a month or so but definitely before the end of the year.

Mr. Heusser thanked the Board for taking the time to look at reinstating him and hopefully it will be settled soon.

Ken Plavnicky
15 Mountain View Road
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. Plavnicky said he wanted to compliment Officer Michael Barry for doing a good job at Ansonia High School. He is running the "boot camp" there and is a good role model for the children.

Mr. Plavnicky asked what is going on with the Fire Chief.

Chief Hale said there is not much we can say. It is burglary in a public building. The Administrative side is being handled in the Mayor's office.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept the monthly reports. Commissioner Pitney 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	X			
David Cassetti	X		X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

Commissioner Goldson asked if at the end of the year will the Commissioners receive a communication or report on the amount of tickets each Police Officer has issued for the year.

Chief Hale said that he can provide that information for the Board.

Commissioner Pitney made a motion to have the Board receive a report on the yearly tickets issued. 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		X			
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept the late communications received.

Commissioner Pitney 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	X			
David Cassetti	X		X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

1. Communication A: Christopher Kachmar, Fiduciary Investments, "Ansonia Police Pension, Executive Summary, Second Quarter 2011
2. Communication B: Larry DiPalma, Principal and Joe Apicella, Asst. Principal Prendergast School re; Evacuation changes (2 ltrs, 1 map)
3. Communication C: Chief Hale re: Policy Approval dated 9/29/11
4. Late Communication #1: Ann Ceremano & Manganello Family re: Parking on sidewalk between Tremont & Williams St. dated 10/3/11
5. Late Communication #2: Madeline Bottone, Town & City Clerk re: Traffic Light Dated 10/4/11

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept all of the communications including the late communications. Commissioner Goldson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Communication B: Chief Hale said Prendergast School is requesting No Parking between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on School days. There are cars parked on Greenfield Drive and Finney Street and they all work at the school. There is a parking lot in the back of the school that is empty. Before you ban parking on those streets this should be looked into. You will be impacting the neighbors during the day. There is a greater concern on Finney Street between Greenfield and Ford. Finney Street has a bigger corner - north at the end of Finney to Greenfield on the east side should be no parking. They are parking in the crosswalks, fire hydrants, etc. There are 12 to 15 cars in the area and yesterday there were 22 empty parking spaces in the parking lot.

Chairman Amico said there is plenty of parking in the lot why aren't they parking there.

The Chief said that the Board can't impact the neighbors because of that. In the winter months there is one side parking and the only people parking there are in the school.

Commissioner Goldson said the school should make it mandatory that the teachers park in the parking lot.

Chairman Amico said there is a lot of parking in the back of the school in that parking lot. It was built specifically for off street parking for the staff.

Commissioner Cassetti said the parking lot is for 40 vehicles.

Chief Hale said there were 22 empty spaces yesterday. He said he will take a look at the parking lot before the Board does anything.

Commissioner Pitney made a motion to have the Chief re-evaluate the parking situation at Prendergast School and report back to the Board next month. Mr. 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		X			
David Cassetti			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

Verbal Communication: Chairman Amico said he received a verbal request that the Police Department take a look at speeding on Fourth Street between N. Fourth Street and N. Main Street.

Chief Hale said he will take a look but there has been coverage in that area by the Police Department.

Communication C: Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to accept and adopt both policies (Use of Chemical Agents – 2.002 and Spike Strip Policy-2.003). Commissioner Cassetti 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	X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			

Late Communication #1 Commissioner Pitney said that this resident has parked on the sidewalk since she moved in. She has been ticketed.

Chief Hale said State Statues state if you do not pay your parking tickets they will not let you register your vehicle.

Commissioner Goldson asked if anyone has gone to the house and spoken to them.

Chief Hale said they have been ticketed however we can go there and speak with them.

Chairman Amico asked if the vehicle can be towed.

Chief Hale said he will evaluate the situation as to whether it is a safety issue or not. If a pedestrian cannot pass on the sidewalk there is a safety issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board to discuss issues concerning a new pension recipient.

Chief Hale said this is still in progress.

2. Status of Mr. Diulio's request to have the crosswalk on Clifton Avenue relocated.

Chief Hale said the crosswalk was moved and has to be moved again. The crosswalk will be blacked out and moved farther down the street at the intersection of Fr. Lar Drive.

3. Request from Ann Marie Caporale of 26 Page Street, Ansonia asking for a no parking sign to be placed from her driveway to the corner of Division Street.

Chief Hale said he recommends a sign 25 feet from the corner east of Division Street toward Ms. Caporale's driveway. Putting a sign where Ms. Caporale requested eliminates four parking spaces. You have to treat this with balance. People have a right and we have to be good neighbors.

Chairman Amico said the Commissioners will go up there and look at the street and parking.

4. Request from Caroline Hayes asking for a handicap sign to be placed in front of her home.

Chief Hale said there is a small driveway to the left of the home and two people are handicap. We can't guarantee they will get the handicap parking space. He said the Board has to be consistent on how they handle this.

Mr. Goldson made a motion that the Board observe the procedures in place and stay with the No Parking. Commissioner Cassetti 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	X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

- Request from Barbara Clifford asking for a no parking sign at Rutland Street/Division Street and Rutland Street/Russell Street.

There was discussion on this request and Chief Hale recommends 25 feet east of Russell on Rutland "No Parking this side of sign" be posted.

- The three (3) tabled resolutions from the Board of Aldermen presented at the July 6, 2011 meeting remained on the table.

There is a sub-committee working on these resolutions.

- Letter was sent to Mr. Carl D'Alessio denying his request to drive golf carts on city streets/roads.
- Property for sale on Elm Street

Chairman Amico said he spoke to Mayor Della Volpe and he said the Board of Aldermen were not in favor of this. The concern is access and egress from the property.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Cassetti said he received a call from Randy Carroll regarding Savelle Road. Mr. Carroll advised him that the No Parking signs are down and the residents want them put back.

Chief Hale said he will look into it.

ORAL REPORT: Chief Kevin Hale

Chief Hale presented the following oral report to the Commission.

Personnel:

- Four Officers are injured:
- Two of the officers are on long term workers compensation.
- Two of the officers are on short term workers compensation.

There was a Claims Review Meeting where these W.C. Claims were discussed.

Hiring:

- There are two new hires currently in the Police Academy.
- One will graduate in December
- One will graduate in February

Post Council will begin charging a fee for training. \$2500 was the original fee. The new fee will not affect the two new hires in the Academy. The in-service training will also have a fee. The increase in these fees is not in the current budget. They hold the certifications so we have to pay the fees.

Commissioner Pitney asked if there are people here that could train our personnel.

Chief Hale said we have people but then we have to consider the overtime. He said the Post Council will notify us soon of the fee schedule.

Miscellaneous:

- Chief Hale said the overtime is high because there are special assignments. There are North End issues as well as officers out on injury, among other reasons.
- There are suspects in the arson case at the Nature Center.
- Last month there was discussion on “no turn on red” at the intersection of Bridge Street, Pershing Drive and Olson Drive. The process to change the signal at this intersection will need permission from the State Traffic Commission. It is recommended that the Board consider changing the “no turn on red” signal.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to send a letter to the State Traffic Commission requesting permission to change the “no turn on red” signal at the intersection at Bridge Street, Crescent Street to Lester Street and Olson Drive to Lester Street. 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		X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

- Officer Michael Barry is running the Boot Camp at 5:30 a.m. at Ansonia High School. It is for students who are having issues at school. The Boot Camp has been very successful.
- Umbrella Group has a program called LAP. This program was developed in Maryland to stop homicides in domestic violence cases. Ansonia has trained our people through a grant from the Matthies Foundation. The program began in March and there was a candlelight ceremony last night in Derby. This program can predict what we face with regard to possible victims. Who is high risk, etc. During the study 4% use the services offered. It predicts the numbers for one year and Ansonia is at that number in six months. Ansonia is at 63% service rate using the program.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept Chief Hale’s oral report. Commissioner Pitney 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	X			
David Cassetti	X		X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to adjourn. 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		X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Acting Recording Secretary
Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority