



# City of Ansonia

253 Main Street  
Ansonia, Connecticut 06401

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*Elizabeth Lynch*  
Asst. TOWN AND CITY CLERK  
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

## BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, November 2, 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 Cassetti	X		
Commissioner Bob Goldson	X		
Commissioner Frank Tyszka	X		

Also in attendance:

Chief Kevin Hale

Scott Nihill, 6<sup>th</sup> 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 October 5, 2011 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept the October 5, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Goldson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

**PUBLIC SESSION**

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

**Ed Musante**

**138 Old Ansonia Road**

**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mr. Musante said on Fifth Street when you pull out you can't see one way. You have to be half way to the middle of the road to see. There are no parking signs and you pull half way to the middle of the road to see if there are any cars traveling on the roadway.

Chief Hale said he will check Fifth Street and the area.

**Ann Lynch**  
**15 Birchwood Road**  
**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mrs. Lynch said there is a parking issue at Prendergast School. During drop off and pick up you have to go left when exiting Birchwood - you cannot go right because the traffic is "crazy". They are parking on the street during the day and you cannot fit two cars traveling in the flow of traffic down the street. The cars are parked on both sides of the street. There is a parking lot at Prendergast School for parking and no one is parking there.

Chairman Amico asked if it is Birchwood or Finney where you cannot see.

Mrs. Lynch said when you exit Birchwood you have to go left during drop off and pick up. The traffic is mayhem there. There are cars on both sides of the street and the back lot is empty. There were 25 empty spots in the lot.

Mrs. Lynch presented pictures of the area to the Board members and the Chief.

Chief Hale said the Board of Police Commissioners discussed this parking situation at last month's meeting.

Mrs. Lynch said she was going to say something at the beginning of the school year and didn't. Two weeks ago she was out running and there was parking on both sides of Greenfield Drive. If you are traveling in a car down Greenfield Drive you cannot get your car down that street. That is a very dangerous situation.

Chief Hale said the Principal and Asst. Principal sent a letter to the Board of Police Commissioners last month. He said he was up at the school twice and there were 22 empty spaces and 25 empty spaces. If there are special events being held at the school and there are a lot of parents visiting, there will be cars parked on all of the streets. The staff should be parking in the lot and not on the street. This has been a problem for 7 or 8 years. He said he will discuss it with Prendergast School staff. The school opened the dialogue on the parking.

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

Mr. Heusser said he was just checking back with the Police Commission with regard to reinstatement on the towing rotation list.

Chairman Amico said the Board has not made a decision yet, He said he told Mr. Heusser it could be months or by the end of the year.

Chairman Amico asked if there was anyone else from the public who wished to address the Board. He asked three times. There was no one. He closed the public session.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept the monthly reports. 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			

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to accept all of the communications. 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: Letter dated October 24, 2011 from Ann Curtis requesting a handicap sign in front of her home.

2. Communication B: Letter dated October 31, 2011 from Chief Hale requesting approval of Policy # 3.502 H.R. 218, Policy #4.004-Investigatory Stop Policy, Policy #5.102 Strip and Body Cavity search.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to take each communication individually. 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			

Communication A: Ann Curtis request for a Handicap Parking sign in front of her home at 123 N. State Street.

Commissioner Goldson said the Police Commission has a Standard Policy governing this type of request.

Chief Hale said there have been discussions in the past on requests for handicap signs in front of residential homes.

The Commissioners discussed Ms. Curtis' request and if they act on it they would go against their policy regarding handicap signs.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to send a letter of regret to Ann Curtis stating the Police Commission has a Standard Policy with regard to street signs. Commissioner Goldson seconded. 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			

Communication B: Chief Hale regarding Police Policies: Policy # 3.502 H.R. 218, Policy #4.004-Investigatory and Stop Policy, Policy #5.102 Strip and Body Cavity search.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve the Police Policies as recommended by the Chief. Commissioner Tyszka seconded. 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			

Chief Hale explained that the Police Department is in the process of updating all of the Police Policy's. They are working with an Attorney on this. The revisions will keep coming to the Board for approval. Once they are completed they will be distributed to the Officers and the Board of Police Commissioners.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Chief Hale said that this is still pending.

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

Chief Hale said the Board voted to approve these policies this evening.

Commissioner Pitney asked if there has been a meeting of the Reward Committee from the Board of Aldermen.

Chief Hale said that Alderman Marini said the Committee hasn't met yet. Aldermanic President Blume asked the Chief to coordinate a meeting with those Police Commission members appointed to the Committee.

Alderman Nihill said Alderman Marini is Chairman of the Committee and he was supposed to get something going. He is the Chairman and it is his responsibility to set up a meeting.

Chief Hale said once he reaches out, he will reach out and organize a meeting to help the Board of Aldermen.

3. Three way stop sign request from Grace Rocco on Beverly Drive and Highland Ave.

Chief Hale said he has gone up there to the intersection in question. It is a huge intersection with a giant bend. If you move the Stop sign you will not see it. From Prindle Avenue northbound there is clear sight. From the other direction the driveways are congested and you are not supposed to use Stop signs to control speed. He is suggesting Public Works Dept. create an island on Beverly Drive with a Stop sign. He said there are bushes there which are not covered by the Zoning Regulations. He said an island with a Stop sign should help the situation.

Commissioner Pitney said driving down Beverly to Highland it will break up the lanes if you stay to the right of island the Stop sign will be right there.

There was discussion on possibly installing three (3) stop signs in the area and the Chief said it is not prudent to have a stop sign and 300 feet another stop sign, etc. The vehicles accelerate and then have to stop. They are opposed to two Stop signs on Highland Ave. The Police can't do anything about the bushes.

Commissioner Pitney asked what could be done about the speeding on Highland Ave.

Chief Hale said the Police can have a radar check on Highland Ave. and they can also put the speed trailer there. He said he would like to take a month to look at the intersection, the speed and the roads.

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to send a letter to Public Works Dept. to install an island at Beverly Drive and Highland Avenue with a stop sign. Commissioner Goldson seconded. 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			

4. Chief Hale to look into the parking situation on Byron Ave.

Commissioner Cassetti said the road narrows down and about 125 feet back from N. Main St. is a speed limit sign.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to install a “No Parking this side of sign” sign and a “No Parking from here to corner” sign. Commissioner Pitney seconded. 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			

5. Send letter to the State Traffic Commission requesting permission to change “No Turn on Red” sign at the intersection at Bridge St., Crescent St. to Lester St. and Olson Drive to Lester St. (Letter has been sent)

Chief Hale said the letter has been sent to the State Traffic Commission and they have received our request and have assigned an Engineer to review the intersection.

6. Request from Ann Marie Caporale asking for a no parking sign to be placed from her driveway to the corner of Division Street.

Chief Hale said he is recommending a sign “No Parking here to the corner” 25 feet from the corner of Page Street and Division St.

Chairman Amico said he went up there and looked at the parking on Page St. and Division St. They are parking beyond the street parking. Part of Ms. Caporale's driveway markings have worn off. He said he agrees with Chief Hale's recommendation for the "No Parking" sign.

Chief Hale said if someone is blocking her driveway or is parking on the sidewalk the residents must call the Police Dept. and they will take care of it.

Commissioner Pitney said the day she went there to look at the parking there was a HumVee parked and no one could see on the street. It blocked vision for all traffic.

Chief Hale said from Page St. to Division St. there will be "No Parking" right side and they will pull the "No Parking" back from the corner and this should help the situation.

Chairman Amico said there are cars parking to the right of the driveway and parking on the left so the "No Parking from here to corner" sign should help.

Chief Hale said if there are cars parked encroaching on her driveway she should call the Police Dept. and an officer will go up to the area.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to install a "No Parking here to the corner" sign 25 feet on Page Street from Division Street. Commissioner Cassetti seconded. Commissioner Goldson seconded. 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		X			

#### 7. Prendergast School – Parking

Chief Hale said he is recommending on Finney Street during school hours parking on one side of the street only as well as on Greenfield Drive closest to Ford Street. The School uses Greenfield Drive for Fire Drills. Southern Greenfield Drive to Ford Street (east) - No Parking during school hours.

Alderman Nihill said he called the Principal of Prendergast School on the parking and he said there is no violation of the law. He can't force his staff to park in the lot.

There was discussion on the streets involved with the parking and the use of the parking lot located at Prendergast School by the school staff. Chief Hale said getting the staff off the roads is key. Across the street is no parking.

Chief Hale said he will prepare a map and draw it on the map and write down what is being proposed for the area. He said it is a safety issue.

Commissioner Cassetti said he would like to vote next month after the Chief presents the map and drawings.

Commissioner Pitney asked what happened with the lady on S. Cliff Street with the tickets and parking on the sidewalk.

Chief Hale said the Police Dept. issued an infraction and she is not parking there any longer. She has to pay the tickets that were issued to her previously or Dept. of Motor Vehicles will hold her registration.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There is no new business.

### **ORAL REPORT: Chief Kevin Hale**

Chief Hale presented the following oral report to the Commission.

#### **Personnel:**

- Two officers are on long term workers compensation.
- One officer is on short term workers compensation.
- A part-time Dispatcher is out.
- The two new recruits are in the Police Academy.
- There are three officers assigned to the Anti-crime unit
- There is a written test for the Detective position on Tuesday, 11/8/11

#### **Miscellaneous:**

- There were three incidents where pedestrians were hit by cars. Sgt. Jennifer Guisto surveyed the area on her own. A letter was sent to the State Traffic Commission to look

at this area (Rt 7 Pershing Drive to Lester St.) where there is one light between two corners (Olson Drive and Pershing Drive and one in the middle).

- There is a new law in the Legislature for the maintenance of Pawn Brokers. There are three separate licenses needed to run the business. The Pawn Shops have a temporary license to the end of the year. The Ansonia Police Dept. license policy is completed and will go out to the Officers.
- With the help from Shelton P.D. our Officers were able to arrest three people and put two people in custody in connection with a six month investigation into drug complaints.
- The Police Dept. has an ongoing investigation into the major homicide cases. There are interviews, etc. still ongoing.
- There has been an impact on the overtime line with the ongoing investigations and the drug raid.
- The baby case should come to closure soon.
- Reward – one family put up money as a reward in a homicide and there has not been one call for referral on the case.
- There are two police cruisers that are in need of replacement. When replaced, the older cruisers will move down to replace the vehicles used by the Canine Officer and the Animal Control Officer.
- Chief Hale said he may need to request additional funds from BOAT for the overtime line item and the sign line item. He said he spoke with Supt. Schryver regarding repainting roads when they are repaved this includes center lines, cross walks and stop bars.
- New Equipment: The Police Dept. has purchased a speed trailer with the forfeit money. It measures speed and you can also use it to post messages. The unit will measure speed while the message is up. The Dept. will keep the old speed trailer. They will also purchase a plate reader that can read 1500 license plates in one minute. This will be bought with forfeit money also.

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

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

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to go into Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. with Chief Hale in attendance. Commission Tyszka seconded. 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			

Commissioner Cassetti made a motion to go back into regular session at 5:55 p.m. There were no motions or decisions made during Executive session. Commissioner Tyszka seconded. 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			

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. 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 6:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jo-Lynn Flaherty

Acting Recording Secretary

Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority