



City of Ansonia

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Ansonia, Connecticut 06401

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TOWN AND CITY CLERK
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 7, 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:

Lt. Wayne Williams

Donna Lindgren, ANC Director

Recording Secretary recorded four (4) 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 November 2, 2011 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Pitney made a motion to accept the November 2, 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			

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the November 29, 2011 Special Meeting held at the Police Department (Grievances) as written. 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
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.

Donna Lindgren, ANC Director

Ansonia Nature Center

City of Ansonia

Ms. Lindgren said she is representing the Red Wing Pond House Pre-School and their request for signs in the driveway area. She explained where the Red Wing Pond House was located on the property. She said that the Board of Aldermen turned over the use of the Red Wing Pond House to the Friends of the Nature Center for a Pre-School. There is a lease agreement in place. The Friends will operate the school. The land is City owned. She said she didn't realize they had to come to the Police Commission for the Stop Sign.

Ms. Lindgren said that the Approval from Planning & Zoning Commission states that the street in front of the Red Wing Pond House will be a one way lane (drop off and pick up area) and it should have a one way sign. Across from the Pond House is the parking area for 25 to 50 cars. It is a gravel parking area and it will be one way traffic into the parking lot and traveling around in front of the Pond House to drop off and pick up the children. She showed the Board members on the map the traffic flow on the property.

Lt. Williams said that Lt. Cota and Chief Hale looked at the area today. The traffic will be going to the right and making a loop. There is no problem with the one way. The right side is the location of the Community Gardens. They could not come back out of the parking lot to exit but would go past the school instead.

Ms. Lindgren said there is plenty of parking spaces for the school. (she showed them on the map where the parking is located on the site).

Lt. Williams asked if that was the original proposal.

Ms. Lindgren said the activity in the Red Wing Pond previously was not approved the P&Z Commission. This Pre-School required Site Plan approval and the P&Z wants one way in front of the school for the safety of the children. The road ends in a dead end.

Lt. Williams discussed making the entire area one way as requested. Pick up and drop off is twice a day, a half hour in the morning and a half hour in the afternoon. This activity will not

affect the people who garden there at the Community Gardens. He said they could put up a stop sign if necessary near the end of the one way loop.

Ms. Lindgren asked Lt. Williams where the stop sign would be located (she used the map for the location).

There was a discussion on the entrance for the drop off and pick up of the children attending the Pre-school in the Red Wing Pond house. There will be sixteen (16) students.

Lt. Williams said the traffic could loop one way and the Police Dept. could install some “DO NOT ENTER” signs. It could be one way in the entrance and where the garden is. The traffic will make a loop and there will be a “one way” sign there and two “do not enter” signs. He said that would work.

Ms. Lindgren asked who takes care of getting the signs and installing them.

Lt. Williams said the Public Works Dept. however there may be a delay if they have to order the signs. BOAT has transferred some funds into that line item. The “One Way” and “Do Not Enter” signs are standard signs so hopefully they have some at the Police Dept.

Ms. Lindgren said they plan to open the school on January 3, 2012.

Lt. Williams said they will get the signs and notify the Public Works Dept. as soon as possible.

Commissioner Pitney asked that Ms. Lindgren notify the parents at the time of registration.

Ms. Lindgren said yes, when they register their child the parents will be told how to drop off and pick up their children.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion that the request from the Ansonia Nature Center for signage at the Red Wing Pond House be complied with. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, the 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			

Richard Bshara
20 Sobin Drive
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. Bshara requested that the stop sign at Chester Street and the stop sign at Chester Street and Shesby Road and the stop sign at Chester Street and Michael Street be removed. He asked if the Police Commission could look into why these stop signs are in those locations. He said he would like to have it looked into and have the signs removed. He thanked the commissioners for their consideration in this matter.

Ken Plavnicky
15 Mountain View Road
Ansonia, CT 06401

Mr. Plavnicky said there is a No Parking sign on Main St. and Bridge St. from the corner more than 25 feet and also a 2 hour parking sign there. He asked if there could be parking in this area. He said you can't park on the corner.

Lt. Williams said there is No Parking because there is an intersection there.

Mr. Plavnicky said the sign says Rt. 334 – No Parking between the two signs. The area is near Ferguson & McGuire on Main St. – the corner spot.

Chairman Amico said does the sign say you can't park from here to there?

Lt. Williams said the State of Connecticut controls parking on Main Street.

Mr. Plavnicky asked if he should call the State on the sign.

Chairman Amico said you did violate the sign.

Mr. Plavnicky asked why he can't park there.

Chairman Amico said there are buses and large trucks that have to make the turn at the intersection that is the reason why there is no parking.

Lt. Williams said the Department will inquire with the State of Conn. on that area.

Commissioner Tyszka said just this evening a bus had trouble making the swing in that area.

Ed Musante
138 Old Ansonia Road
Ansonia, CT

Mr. Musante said he was at last month's meeting concerning Fifth Street and the left hand turn onto Main Street at St. Anthony's Church there was a problem getting out of Fifth Street. He is asking for an update on that. He also stated that the owner of Shelly's Hair Salon parks her car in front of the store on Main Street all day. He said there is supposed to be 2 hour parking limit.

Commissioner Goldson said that the signs were ordered for Fifth Street.

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

Mr. Heusser said he was just checking with the Police Commission to see if there is any word with regard to his reinstatement on the towing list.

Chairman Amico said there is nothing yet.

Mr. Heusser said OK he will check back next month.

Chairman Amico asked if there was anyone else from the public who wished to address the Board. He asked three (3) times. There was no one. He closed the public session.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Commissioner Tyszka 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
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Goldson 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
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka			X			

1. Communication A: Letter dated November 30, 2011 to the Board from Donna Lindgren of the Ansonia Nature Center requesting two (2) "One Way signs with arrows and one (1) "Do Not Enter" sign to be placed on Milan Street, per the request of the Ansonia Planning & Zoning Commission
2. Communication B: Letter dated December 5, 2011 to the Board from Chief Kevin J. Hale regarding his request for approval of policy #4007

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to take each communication individually. 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			

1. Communication A: Letter dated November 30, 2011 to the Board from Donna Lindgren of the Ansonia Nature Center requesting two (2) "One Way signs with arrows and one (1) "Do Not Enter" sign to be placed on Milan Street, per the request of the Ansonia Planning & Zoning Commission

Chairman Amico said that the Board has already taken action on this communication.

2. Communication B: Letter dated December 5, 2011 to the Board from Chief Kevin J. Hale regarding his request for approval of policy #4007

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve with any corrections Police Policy #4007 as recommended by Chief Hale. 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			

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Lt. Williams said that this is still pending.

2. Prendergast School – Parking

Chairman Amico said that there have been complaints regarding the parking around Prendergast School, Finney Street and Greenfield Drive. He said Chief Hale has come up with some recommendations.

There was a sketch/map provided to the Board.

Lt. Williams said they have worked with Prendergast School staff on the parking. There was a meeting because there was an issue with the last fire drill when the students exit to the fields especially in the winter months with the snow and ice. The staff will use Stop signs and the children will go across the street to Greenfield Drive. The parents and staff park there during the day and not in the lot which has adequate parking. He said that Greenfield Drive to Ford St. there will be “No Parking” during school hours. There was a person hit by a car in this area. The no parking will be just during school hours. This “NO PARKING” will be enforced during the school hours. Principal DePalma will discuss this with the staff.

Commissioner Pitney questioned why they weren’t using the south side of Greenfield Drive as well for No Parking.

Lt. Williams said they don’t use that end of Greenfield for the fire drills. They will show the Department where the children will be sent during a fire drill and the signs will be posted.

Commissioner Pitney moved to approve “NO PARKING” signs be placed on Finney Street and the north section of Prendergast School. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, the 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			

3. Brian Phipps Ceremony at Armory

Commissioner Pitney asked if there was any information on the program scheduled for Friday, December 16, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at the Armory for Brian Phipps. She said they were supposed to dedicate the bridge overpass on Rt. 8 in his name.

Commissioner Goldson said he requests that the Police Commissioners receive a letter to remind them of special occasions.

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Pitney moved to accept the 2012 Meeting Schedule with the correction that there is no August meeting. 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			

ORAL REPORT: Lt. Williams for Chief Kevin Hale

Lt. Wayne Williams presented the following oral report to the Commission.

Personnel:

- Three (3) officers are on long term workers compensation.
- Two (2) part-time Dispatchers are out on non work related illness.
- The Detective test was given and the final rankings are in. The Mayor will make the final decision.

Miscellaneous:

- The State Traffic Commission has responded to our letter regarding the right turn on red at Bridge Street and Lester Street and Olson Drive. The State Traffic Commission has denied the request because there are cross walks in the road in this intersection.
- The Police Department has not heard from the Board of Public Works regarding the request for an island at the intersection of Beverly Drive and Highland Avenue.

Commission Tyszka moved to send a follow up letter to the Board of Public Works on the island at the intersection of Beverly Drive and Highland Avenue. 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			

- The two new police cruisers have been delivered and are on the road. The older cruisers have replaced the vehicles used by the Canine Officer and the Animal Control Officer.
- The Police Department is working with Derby Police Department and Shelton Police Department on the theft of the Memorial Plaques from the Woodbridge Avenue Monument. There have been thefts from monuments in Derby and Shelton and the Police Departments are working together to find the ones responsible. He said there was a report that a plaque was taken from the Bridge Street bridge. Upon checking there was no plaque on the bridge, so no theft had taken place.
- Chief Hale received a request from Attorney James Sheehy on the winter parking ban. He is requesting that the winter parking ban stay on one side of the street from Nichols Street to Franklin Street. He said all of the resident's park on his side of the street and there is no room for parking for his clients. Attorney Sheehy made this request last year.

This year 2011 is the odd side of the street. Lt. Williams said they will review it and report back.

- Lt. Williams said there was a request from a resident at 34 Colony Street requesting winter parking on the even side of the street from N. Main Street to Underhill Road because the parking for some of the residents on Colony Street is just off the road and they will be blocked in if there is parking on that side of the street. Most houses have off street parking the problem is getting out of their driveways. He said they will go up there and take a look at the situation.
- Lt. Williams said BOAT has added funds to the signs and paint line item. The signs that were approved have been delivered.

Chairman Amico said some of the existing signs have the paint worn off them. He is asking that everyone who sees a sign with worn paint to let the Police Dept. know so that these signs could be replaced.

Lt. Williams said that the funding has been approved to the overtime line item also.

- Lt. Williams said the State of Conn. restricted parking on Bridge Street from Main Street to W. Main Street on the north side of the road because the Maple Street bridge was closed. Once the Maple Street Bridge is open they will ask to have the no parking removed and restore it back.

Commissioner Pitney moved to send a letter to the State of Conn STC requesting the parking be restored on Bridge St. from Main Street to W. Main Street on the north side once the Maple Street bridge is opened. 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			

- Lt. Williams said the Bridge should be open by the end of this week or early next week.

- Chief Hale met with DOT on the intersection of Main Street and Division Street. They will engineer changes to the intersection through the State of Conn. Chief Hale will advise the Board on any changes proposed. There have been complaints from the residents living on Park Place and on the traffic back up down Main Street to Healy Ford.

Commissioner Pitney discussed the Riverwalk in Ansonia and the Division Street traffic at the crosswalk. There are people trying to get across the street in that area. There is a need for a “button” near Taco Bell to stop the traffic so people could cross the street.

Lt. Williams said the plan calls for “Walk/Do Not Walk” signals to be installed as part of the plan.

Commissioner Pitney said the American Flag in front of the Police Station isn’t out on weekends.

Lt. Williams said the Custodian usually puts the flag out and an Officer takes it down in the evening because there is no light on the flag. Most of the times the flag is out. The Custodian doesn’t work on the weekends.

Commissioner Pitney said that the flag should be put up during the day on the weekends. She said an Officer can put it up.

Lt. Williams said he will address it with the Supervisor on duty.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to accept Lt. Williams’s oral 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 the meeting at 6:00 p.m. 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
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jo-Lynn Flaherty

Acting Recording Secretary

Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority