



# City of Ansonia

CONNECTICUT 06401

## BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

### COMMISSIONERS

Ann Pitney, President

Bob Goldson, Vice President

Nicholas L. Amico, Commissioner

Frank Tyszka, Secretary

Paul Heon, Commissioner

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Ann Pitney  
Treasurer and City Clerk  
Ansonia, Connecticut

### REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 4, 2014

5:00 PM

Erlingheuser Room

### MINUTES

#### CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Ann Pitney 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 Chairwoman, the Recording Secretary called the roll. The following Commissioners were present.

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Commissioner Ann Pitney	X		
Commissioner Bob Goldson	X		
Commissioner Frank Tyszka	X		
Commissioner Nicholas Amico	X		
Commissioner Paul Heon	X		

Also in attendance:

Lieutenant Andrew Cota, Corporation Counsel John Marini

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairwoman asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the May 7, 2014, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept the minutes with the necessary corrections should there be any. Commissioner Amico seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico		X	X			
Paul Heon			X			

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

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

**Jeff Devine**  
**12 Arlene Terrace**  
**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mr. Devine stated that he was at the meeting for a follow up regarding Benz Street at Milan Street. Mr. Devine also wanted to inform the Board that the traffic light on Bridge Street at West Main Street, going east bound needs to be looked at.

**Steven Schumacher**  
**8 Milan St.**  
**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mr. Schumacher stated that he wanted to know about the engineers follow up regarding Benz Street at Milan Street.

**Frank Heusser**  
**Frank's LLC**  
**142 Wakelee Ave.**  
**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mr. Heusser informed the Board that Mr. Pelaccia is not certified through ASE for vehicle maintenance/repair and he works on the police cars, so it's something that the Board should look into. Chairwoman asked Lt. Cota if he was aware of this. Lt. Cota stated that he did not know the language of the maintenance contract off hand but would look into this matter. Corporation Counsel Marini stated that this can be looked into. Commissioner Tyszka stated that he didn't think the owner of the business needed to be certified. Mr. Heusser stated only if he was not working on the cars. Chairwoman stated that the Maintenance bid scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> will go on as scheduled however this issue will be looked into.

**Paul Kingston**  
**6 Milan Street**  
**Ansonia, CT 06401**

Mr. Kingston stated he was at the meeting to follow up on Benz Street at Milan Street.

**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
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			
Nicholas Amico			X			
Paul Heon			X			

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Chairwoman asked for a motion to accept the communications. Commissioner Amico made a motion to accept the communications and place them on file. Commissioner Heon seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico	X		X			
Paul Heon		X	X			

Chairwoman asked for a motion to accept the late communication. Commissioner Amico made a motion to accept the late communication and place it on file. Commissioner Heon seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico	X		X			
Paul Heon		X	X			

- A. Email sent on May 19th to Chief Kevin J. Hale (carbon copy to the Board) from Mr. Steve Blenus regarding his previous request for No Parking on West Main Street. Members of the Board expressed how difficult it was to understand the drawings provided by Mr. Blenus and asked Lt. Cota to explain which locations Mr. Blenus is requesting no parking as well as crosswalks. A brief discussion was held. Chairwoman recommended that a letter should be sent to Mr. Blenus inviting him to the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Board of Police Commissioners meeting to explain his request further. Commissioner Heon made a motion to invite Mr. Blenus to the next Board of Police Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Amico seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico		X	X			
Paul Heon	X		X			

B. Letter dated May 27<sup>th</sup>, to the Board from Town Clerk Elizabeth Lynch regarding the Board of Aldermen forwarding Detective Rafalowski's request to serve as a police officer for an additional year beyond his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. Corporation Counsel Marini stated that the Board of Aldermen were looking for this Board's recommendation which would then get forwarded back to the Board of Aldermen for approval. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept Detective Rafalowski's request. Commissioner Heon stated that the motion should also state that this acceptance does not set a precedence and all of these requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Commissioner Goldson amended his motion, he motioned to accept Detective Rafalowski's request but will not set precedence to other requests and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson	X		X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			
Nicholas Amico			X			
Paul Heon			X			

Late Communication- Letter dated June 4, 2014, from Mr. Fred D'Amico to the Board of Police Commissioners regarding the stop sign that was removed at the intersection of Benz Street and Milan Street. Chairwoman read the letter to those present. Mr. D'Amico stated in his letter that after visiting the site with Doug Novak-Public Works Director and Kevin Hale- Chief of Police, he feels that the sign should not be replaced. Chairwoman stated that this was the final resolution regarding the stop sign that was removed on Benz Street at Milan Street.

Steven Schumacher

8 Milan St.

Ansonia, CT 06401

Stated that there was a party on Benz Street and people were parking on Milan Street all the way up to the stop sign making it very difficult to see. Mr. Schumacher stated that years ago there was a no parking sign next to the stop sign but it is no longer there. Mr. Schumacher requested that the sign be put back up. Lt. Cota stated that he also recalled a no parking sign being there as well and will look into that.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion for Lt. Cota to investigate along with Chief Hale the no parking sign for Milan Street. Commissioner Goldson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			
Nicholas Amico			X			
Paul Heon			X			

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Request from Frank Heusser Jr. of Frank's LLC to be placed back on the rotational tow list. Chairwoman wanted to discuss this matter as the last item under unfinished business.
2. Mr. Musante's request for two dead-end street signs to be placed, one at Laurel Street and the second on Partridge Street. Lt. Cota stated that the department will order the signs and contact Public Works to install the signs.
3. Mr. Danley's request for a hotdog cart permit. Mr. Danley was contacted and advised to pick up a hawkers permit application.
4. Chief Hale's request for a stop sign coming out of Deerfield Lane (near Red Wing Pond School- Correction- coming out of Milan Street and not Deerfield Lane) Chairwoman asked how close will the stop signs be to one another. Lt. Cota replied that they will be directly adjacent to each other with the existing one on Deerfield Lane and the new one to be placed on Milan Street. Commissioner Heon made a motion to approve Chief Hale's request to place the stop sign on Milan Street at Deerfield Lane. Commissioner Amico seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico		X	X			
Paul Heon	X		X			

5. Chairwoman's concerns regarding parking situations at the corner of Page Street coming from Division Street. Lt. Cota informed the Chairwoman that vehicles are being tagged in that area and parking violations are actively being enforced. Commissioner Amico stated that he was in the area about two weeks ago and noticed a vehicle parked at this location. He stated that he called the violation in to the department and the vehicle was removed. The Board decided to leave this area as is.

Chairwoman reverted back to item 1 under unfinished business. Chairwoman asked Mr. Heusser if he received the packet and if he had a chance to read it and sign it. He stated that that he did but he was not sure if he needed to bring it to the Commissioners or give it to the chief. Chairwoman asked Mr. Heusser if he had any questions. Mr. Heusser replied that he just wanted to ask...he saw that the (MOU) mentioned Ray Knott and he said the thing that bothers him is that if it were a big call and he needed an extra CDL driver like what happened on rt. 8, that he Mr. Knott) wouldn't be allowed in there. Mr. Heusser said he didn't have a problem with that but asked how one of the officers could work with him during an 8 hour shift and not have a problem with him. Chairwoman stated that it's not an emergency situation, tensions are not high and he's not going to lose his temper like he does. Mr. Heusser said he just couldn't understand that if they worked on his job site for 8 hours and nothing happened then why would it be an issue, it seems like a double standard. Chairwoman stated that it's a good thing that they were able to work together. Commissioner Tyszka asked why professionalism would be a double standard. Mr. Heusser said if he is professional to work that job and she was okay working that job then why... Corporation Counsel Marini stated that it's a comparison to apples and oranges. This was at the Boards discretion and the Commission was kind enough to make this offer and you may think this doesn't make sense but the Board is trying to do what they think is best and I don't think this issue is contradictory, it's comparing apples to oranges. Chairwoman stated that Mr. Heusser can submit the signed copy to the Chief.

Mr. Heusser asked the Board if all of the wreckers are complying to the laws. Chairwoman stated she was unsure of which laws. Mr. Heusser stated there is a special permit now. In order to do any municipality tow for a heavy duty wrecker they need an annual weight permit. Lt. Cota stated he is unaware of it but will look into this matter and make sure everyone is compliant. Chairwoman asked for a motion to support Chief Hale's decision on Frank's LLC.

Commissioner Amico made a motion for the Board to support Chief Hale's decision on Frank's LLC. Commissioner Tyszka seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson			X			
Frank Tyszka		X	X			
Nicholas Amico	X		X			
Paul Heon			X			

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**ORAL REPORT:** Presented by Lt. Cota**Personnel:**

- 1 officer is out on light duty.
- 1 officer is out on long term illness.
- 1 Part-Time Dispatcher has been hired.

**Miscellaneous:**

- There have been some air conditioning issues mainly on the second floor, but has since been resolved and they are now working on basement.
- The generator bid has been waived and equipment has been ordered.
- The vehicle maintenance bid opening will be June 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.
- The VIRTRA contract has been signed and training should begin soon.
- The Detective Bureau reports will be revised by next month.
- The department will be part of police officer testing through South Central Criminal Justice in July as a precaution in case officers retire.
- The changes to Holbrook Street will be phased in to take effect after school ends.
- BusShield will have cameras on all city busses in time for fall of 2014.

Chairwoman stated that she received a letter from the Department of Transportation regarding revising traffic signals, one of which is on rt. 115 State Street.

-Chairwoman stated that the sign for Hughes Circle (No Outlet sign) is in and the residents were going to purchase a "Private Road" Sign and post. The town will install both signs pending the Hughes Circle Association's purchase of the "Private Road" sign.

-Chairwoman stated that she went to the Board of Education and Eileen Ehman gave her a report which showed the progress that is being made at the Ansonia High School with Officer Barry there. She had numbers within the last four years and this young man has done a fantastic job.

Commissioner Heon asked if the department is planning for overtime for patrols to cover the schools. This is being looked into with the help of Eileen Ehman.

Lt. Cota also mentioned that there have been issues with the traffic light on Division Street at North Division Street. It freezes and causes traffic problems, so the Department of Transportation has been contacted and they said that it is an engineering issue so an engineer will be taking a look at it to find out the resolution to this.

Commissioner Tyszka asked a couple of questions regarding the monthly statistics. He asked Lt. Cota if the increase in abandoned motor vehicle is due to the Zoning Enforcement Officer. Lt. Cota explained that some of it is from him as well as patrolling and the plate reader. Commissioner Tyszka also said the same with the increase in numbers for drunken drivers. Lt. Cota stated that the department has a new group of officers... Commissioner Tyszka said that this

was great because people can die. Commissioner Tyszka also said that the motor vehicle complaints are up and so are the numbers for distracted driving as well. Lt. Cota said they are really focused on that. Commissioner Tyszka stated that the department is doing a great job!

Commissioner Amico made a motion to accept the Chief's report presented by Lt. Cota. Motion seconded by Commissioner Goldson. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka			X			
Nicholas Amico	X		X			
Paul Heon			X			

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was none.

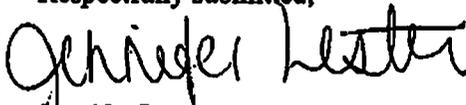
**ADJOURNMENT:**

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
Ann Pitney			X			
Bob Goldson		X	X			
Frank Tyszka	X		X			
Nicholas Amico			X			
Paul Heon			X			

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Lester

Recording Secretary

Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority