



# City of Ansonia

CONNECTICUT 06401

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

## COMMISSIONERS

Ann Pitney, President

Bob Goldson, Vice President  
Paul Heon, Commissioner

Frank Tyszka, Secretary  
Michael Rinaldi, Commissioner

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*Debra Branch*  
TOWN AND CITY CLERK  
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, May 6, 2015  
5:00 PM  
Aldermanic Chambers

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Ann Pitney chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:02 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 Paul Heon	X		
Commissioner Michal Rinaldi	X		

Also in attendance:

Chief Kevin Hale, Alderman Henri, Alderman Kaslaitis

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 April 1, 2015 regular meeting. Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve April 1, 2015 meeting minutes with any corrections if necessary. 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			
Paul Heon			x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Alderman Henri  
 16 Harris Rd.  
 Ansonia, CT

Alderman Henri states that he has completed the template which he brought to the meeting to show the board. Alderman Henri states that in the fall he plans to mark the pavement in front of fire hydrants with a highly visible yellow paint in the hot spots which seem to always get buried in the snow. Alderman Henri advised the board that he will ask public works and other fellow fireman in town for assistance to make sure that the marking would be visible and placed where they would be needed. Alderman Henri just wanted to be sure that everyone was on the same page.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to proceed with this project. Commissioner Rinaldi 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			
Paul Heon			x			
Michal Rinaldi		x	x			

Alderman Henri  
 16 Harris Rd.  
 Ansonia, CT

The second thing I wanted to bring up was the traffic light at Main St and Tremont St. Chief Hale advised me that it was already on the agenda for the meeting tonight. Alderman Henri stated it was part of a discussion on the Valley Independent Sentinel and a concerned citizen brought it to his attention and he said that he would address it at tonight's meeting.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:**

Commissioner Rinaldi 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			
Paul Heon			x			
Michal Rinaldi	x		x			

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to accept the communications. Commissioner Rinaldi 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			
Paul Heon			x			
Michal Rinaldi		x	x			

- A. Letter dated April 7, 2014(2015), to the Board from Ms. Alison Rubelmann of the Ansonia Nature Center, request police patrol in the park (Nature Center) at or before sunset. Chief Hale advised the Board that he spoke with Ms. Rubelmann today and reassured her that the police are up there frequently and will continue to patrol the park routinely. (Nature Center)

B. Letter via email dated April 8, 2015, to the Board from Anne M. Lynch-Vice Chairman of the Ansonia Recreation Department requesting an "Authorized Vehicles Only" sign to be placed on the gate that allows access to the field at the Nature Center. In addition, Mrs. Lynch is requesting additional patrolling in the area due to the additional traffic. Chief Hale advised the Board that he sent Mrs. Lynch an email advising her that he did believe that the Board did not have to take any action on this. Chief Hale explained to her that the road she was referring to was a city road on city property and that she could just purchase a sign and have public works install it. Chief Hale said if we had a sign we would just give it to her but we don't have any signs of that nature. Chief Hale also advised her that they would probably need an ordinance or have it included in an existing ordinance so if someone goes down there in defiance of the rule we would be able to enforce it. Ms. Rubelmann was going to follow up with Attorney Marini to see if there was an ordinance in place already. (no action to be taken from this Board)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Tyszka stated that he had a question about the Beverly Drive triangle. Commissioner Tyszka would like to know if it is going to be done. Chief Hale stated that the last discussion that he had with Doug Novak-Superintendent of Public Works he suggested to do a painted island. The reason for a painted island is because you cannot just put curbing on the street it would have to be dug up to be done properly. Chief Hale will contact Mr. Novak to follow up on this.

Commissioner Heon asked Chief Hale about the racial profiling report. Commissioner Heon just wants to clarify that we fell within the proper perimeter according to the report. Chief Hale stated correct. Chief Hale states out of the number of lists in that report we are on one. We are on the list of the ten most active departments in the state in terms of motor vehicle stops with 326 stops per 1000 residents. So it shows that we are active in terms of motor vehicle enforcement. Chief Hale states that as far as the report goes overall we had no issues. Chief Hale and the Board had a brief discussion on the statistics.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Elimination of the traffic light at Main Street and Tremont Street.  
Chief Hale states the traffic light at that location has been a source of complaints for years and only benefits the bank. Doug Novak and I went down there and spent some time evaluating that light and I think the goal should be to have the light removed but we will need D.O.T 's concurrence on this. However, there is an issue with people exiting the bank safely; there are sight line issues,

Chief Hale states that at this point he just wanted to get the conversation going on this. There are a few things that need to be worked out. I am waiting for Doug Novak. He is going to make arrangements so we can meet with someone from D.O. T. and have them come down and look at it and tell us what option we have if any. Commissioner Pitney stated to put it on the agenda for next month.

**B. Formally eliminate the future need for a traffic light at the intersection of East Main Street and Tremont St.**

Chief Hale states that a tree damaged the wires and traffic light at that location a number of years ago. The City did not have the funds to replace the light so we put up stop signs. I think the stop signs work better and the flow of traffic in that area is much better, with that being the case there is equipment over there, the big poles that hold the light and 5 or 6 crosswalk heads. If we are not going to replace that light we would like to take that equipment down to replace equipment at other locations in town. The Board discussed the stop signs and are in agreement that the flow of traffic is better so there is no need to replace the traffic light.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to keep the stop signs at location and to recommend the removal of the traffic equipment from location to be used elsewhere. Commissioner Heon Seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER	Motion Made	Seconded Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent
Ann Pitney			x			
Bob Goldson			x			
Frank Tyszka	x		x			
Paul Heon		x	x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

**C. The newly installed fence at the Police Department.**

Commissioner Pitney and the Board members had a discussion about the fence that was recently installed at the Police Department.

Commissioner Tyszka made a motion to send a letter of request to Doug Novak-Superintendent of Public Works to review the situation with the fence. 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			
Paul Heon			x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

Commissioner Pitney asked who would like to be on the committee with her. Commissioner Heon accepted.

**ORAL REPORT:**

**Personnel-**

- One opening for patrol officer
- One officer on part time light duty
- Two officers injured one on duty, one off duty
- Part time dispatcher is being filled we are finalizing that now
- Canine position has been assigned to Officer Paul Smith
- The dog is in state right now, it just came in from Germany.
- Training starts at the end of May for 2 weeks.
- It's a cross train patrol dog, trained in search and drugs.
- We are in the process of converting one of the small suv's into the canine car.
- I had a meeting with the new owners of the bar Savor they opened this past weekend. We had some problems with the cliental early Sunday morning. We met with them and there is a mutual understanding. They may hire a private duty officer for Saturday nights.
- Division St construction is back open now that caused some major issues for us.
- Rt 34 Dam is back open that did not cause us any issues.
- Sunday night they are closing the Rt 34 Bridge in Derby, they will be diverting traffic onto Main St in Ansonia. Derby will have 4 officers. We will have 1 officer at Main and Division running the light from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. for at least 3 nights starting Sunday.
- We are working with Public Works purchasing more stop signs
- Public Works is also going to paint some lines for us once they get their machine fixed
- The body cam committee continues to work on purchasing the cameras and working on the policy and procedures
- I will be attending a 2 day training next week run by the Ct Police Chiefs Associates

-Phipps committee met and they came up with a name for the Brian Phipps Award and I need this committee to vote to approve this anonymous award today.

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to approve the name for the Brian Phipps Award. 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		x			
Frank Tyszka			x			
Paul Heon		x	x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

Commissioner Goldson made a motion to accept Chief Hale's oral report. 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		x			
Frank Tyszka			x			
Paul Heon		x	x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

**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			
Paul Heon		x	x			
Michal Rinaldi			x			

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn LaBaire

Recording Secretary

Board of Police Commissioners/Traffic Authority