

Old Saybrook Police Commission

Regular Meeting

March 28, 2022

MINUTES

A regular hybrid meeting of the Old Saybrook Police Commission was held on Monday, March 28, 2022. The meeting was recorded and can be viewed in its entirety at <https://youtu.be/Tgl-q6tdTOA>

Present: Chairman Wilcox, Vice Chairman Shippee, Secretary Notar-Francesco, Commissioners Calle, Manning, Maselli and Von Dassel. Chief Spera and Captain DePerry were present from the Department of Police Services.

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance (0:20)

Chairman Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led those in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Comments from the Public (1:04)

Mark Hand commented.

Keith Margotta commented.

Vice Chairman Shippee read a letter from Mike Bender.

The Commission discussed if they should read letters from residents who are unable to attend meetings or if it ought to be passed around in correspondence.

III. Discussion and Possible Action on the Meeting Minutes for February 28, 2022 (13:09)

Commissioner Maselli made a motion to accept the February 28, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Vice Chairman Shippee seconded the motion.

Secretary Notar-Francesco stated that on page 3, the minutes state *"Secretary Notar-Francesco made a motion to approve the Chief developing a monthly workshop series to present to the Police Commission and implement it starting at the April 2022 meeting, remaining flexible with agenda item schedules"* and it should be *"remaining flexible with agenda item schedules and evaluating after the first couple of presentations."*

Commissioner Maselli made a motion to approve the March 28, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. Vice Chairman Shippee seconded the motion. The motion to approve the March 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes as amended passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

IV. Executive Reports (14:49)

a. FY 23 Operating Budget - Update

There was no discussion regarding the FY 23 Operating Budget

b. FY 22 Operating Budget (14:50)

Chief Spera reviewed the new format of budget spreadsheets with the Commission. The document that was presented to the Commission is the same one that the Town Hall finance department would generate.

The Commission agreed to continue to use the new format moving forward.

c. Off Budget Accounts (19:40)

The Commission discussed Off Budget Accounts and decided that a new format will be used moving forward.

d. Personnel Matters (24:18)

Custodian Pat Hanley is out on family medical leave.

Detective First Class David Perrotti has retired again.

Patrolman Trainee Simpson will be graduating the Police Academy sometime in May.

Patrolman Dwyer is a full personnel asset.

Vice Chairman Shippee questioned the status of Patrolman Schulz.

Chief Spera advised that Patrolman Schulz is still on paid administrative leave pending the completion of the internal investigation.

e. Fleet Update (31:47)

Chief Spera spoke about the new design on the patrol vehicles and updated the Commission regarding the status of the fleet.

f. Administrative Professional Development (33:25)

Sergeant Walsh spoke about his recent professional development opportunity and the information he received by attending the course.

Captain DePerry spoke about the conference he recently attended and the knowledge he received.

The Commission was pleased to hear about these professional development opportunities and discussed prospects moving forward.

V. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Agenda Packets (48:13)

It was decided that the new format financials and the off budget accounts each month would be posted online along with the agenda.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning 2022 Golf Cart Registration Fees (49:57)

The Commission discussed the golf cart registration fees.

Chief Spera advised that the golf cart fees in previous years were \$25 for the first golf cart registered to an address, \$20 for a second golf cart and \$15 for a third, all registered to the same address. The fee is \$45 for a vanity plate should a resident request one.

Commissioner Von Dassel made a motion to keep the golf cart registration fees the same as the previous years (\$25/\$20/\$15 and \$45 vanity). Commissioner Maselli seconded the motion. The motion to keep the golf cart fees \$25/\$20/\$15 and \$45 vanity passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on the “Complaints Made to Commissioners” By-Law Proposal (57:19)

Chairman Wilcox stated that he will be tabling this agenda item until further discussion with Attorney Cronin.

The Commission discussed Attorney Cronin’s letter and if it should be posted on the website.

Secretary Notar-Francesco made a motion to table the “Complaints Made to Commissioners” By-Law Proposal to the next meeting. Commissioner Manning seconded the motion. The motion to table the “Complaints Made to Commissioners” By-Law Proposal passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Action on the “Police Commission Correspondence” By-Law Proposal (1:08:10)

The Commission discussed the option of tabling or voting on the “Police Commission Correspondence” by-law proposal, “Responsibilities of Commissioners as to Inquiries” by-law proposal and “Public Comment” by-law proposal tonight.

Commissioner Manning made a motion to table items VIII, IX and X until the next meeting. Vice Chairman Shippee seconded the motion. The motion to table items VIII, IX and X passed with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

IX. Discussion and Possible Action on the “Responsibilities of Commissioners as to Inquiries” By-Law Proposal (1:08:10)

X. Discussion and Possible Action on the “Public Comment” By-Law Proposal (1:08:10)

XI. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning the Retention of Police Commission Meeting Recordings (1:16:10)

Chairman Wilcox stated that he was going to ask the Board of Selectmen to keep Police Commission meeting recordings for a year instead of six months.

Larry Hayden stated that the Board of Selectmen recently passed a motion stating that all Commission videos will be kept for a year.

The Commission discussed the retention of Police Commission meeting recordings.

XII. Correspondence (1:23:24)

The correspondence was passed around.

XIII. Update on Police Commission Email Addresses (1:24:26)

Larry Hayden advised the Commission that all individual commissioners are able to be emailed through the website contact form. The Commission and Larry discussed the process of emailing through the website and why the individual email addresses are not published on the webpage.

The Commission discussed the verbiage they should use when responding to emails.

XIV. Discussion Concerning Progress Toward Annual Evaluations of the Chief of Police (1:36:39)

Chairman Wilcox stated that the Democratic Party caucus has been working on a template of an evaluation to present.

The Commission discussed the possibility of setting up a subcommittee or special meeting instead of a caucus to include members of the Republican Party.

XV. Comments from the Public (1:40:47)

Edson Bourn commented.

Christopher Root commented.

Keith Margotta commented.

XVI. Comments from the Chief of Police (1:47:21)

Chief Spera commented.

XVII. Comments from Police Commissioners (2:00:05)

Commissioner Von Dassel commented.

Commissioner Calle commented.

Commissioner Manning commented.

Vice Chairman Shippee commented.

XVIII. Adjournment (2:08:51)

Secretary Notar-Francesco made a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Vice Chairman Shippee. The motion to adjourn passed with a vote of 7 in favor and 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer D'Amato
Records Clerk for the Old Saybrook Police Commission