

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING JULY 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was called to order by Chairman, Commissioner Cafferelli at 4:30 pm.

Those present were: the Chairman, Commissioner Cafferelli; Secretary Commissioner Millington, Commissioner Stone, Commissioner Pine, Commissioner Lebo, Commissioner Ambrose, Commissioner Kiley, Chief Lyddy, Deputy Chief Smith, Captain Kalamaras and Captain Tursi.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes from previous meetings were approved in a motion made by Commissioner Ambrose; seconded by Commissioner Lebo; carried unanimously.

The Officer of the Quarter presentation. Officer Christopher J. Rubis was not present at the meeting and will receive his award at a future date. This award is for the July 15, 2020 through October 14, 2020 quarter. Captain Kalamaras addressed the Commission saying that in Officer Rubis' twenty-three year career his attitude, initiative and job proficiency reflect great credit upon himself, our profession and the Fairfield Police Department and he is most deserving of the Officer of the Quarter award.

Traffic Surveys:

T.S. #1 Shelter Rock Road and Steiner Street intersection (no survey trip). Nature of request: based on field observations and consistency for Steiner Street being the minor street at other intersections, Engineering recommends the "Stop" sign be placed on the Steiner Street approaches to designate right of way. Shelter Rock Road (higher volume – unless traffic counts show different) would not have stop signs as 4-way stop is not warranted at this time. Commissioner Kiley said that these are both dead ends. Commissioner Stone said that the three times he was there cars did not slow down. Commissioner Lebo agreed and the two hills make it confusing. Captain Tursi said that this survey was recommended by Town Engineer William Hurley and there was no motor vehicle history at the location. Commissioner Pine motioned to approve the recommendation by the Engineering Department; motion seconded by Commissioner Lebo; approved unanimously.

T.S. #2 Rowland Road (no survey trip). Nature of request: remove the center lines to make Rowland Road look like the quiet residential street with low traffic volumes that it is (like Edward Street that has no center line) and not a major thoroughfare (like Reef Road). Removing center lines has been shown to reduce speeds as it creates driver uncertainty and greater caution. By whom: Alyssa Israel. Commissioner Ambrose said that he lived on Lalley Boulevard for thirty years and Rowland is very heavily traveled. By removing the center lines, it will be removing a safety asset and a not sound idea. He also said that proper format was not used and he motioned to deny. Commissioner Millington asked to hold off on the vote and let the caller speak. Commissioner Ambrose removed his motion to allow public discussion. Alyssa Israel from 679 Rowland Road, phoned into the meeting and said that a petition was done on-line and that several immediate neighbors were in favor. She said that she has lived there for twenty-two years and that other roads in the neighborhood do not have them. She also said that double

yellow lines serve no service on the street and there is double sided parking and people pick up speed on the last block. Double yellow lines gives an impression that it's a major thoroughfare. She asked for a trial period. She suggested giving it a try and do a traffic study instead of denying it. Commissioner Millington said that if you eliminate from Rowland other neighborhoods would want lines removed. He said that the lines keep people on their side of the road and he is not in support of it. Commissioner Pine said that taking away the double yellow lines could be a liability for the Town and he's against it. Commissioner Stone said he spoke to William Hurley from Engineering and that the cost would be significant. Captain Tursi addressed the Commissioners saying that in the past three years on Rowland Road there were four motor vehicle accidents and eight motor vehicle violations and that Reef Road, Penfield Road and Beach Road all have double yellow lines. Commissioner Ambrose said that Rowland is a main road to the beach with a huge amount of walkers and bikers going to the beach. Valerie Ratner from 672 Rowland Road phoned into the meeting saying that it would slow cars on the street and what can be done about slowing cars down if the lines are not removed. An email was received from Leigh Hannum from 644 Rowland Road and she says that she has lived on Rowland Road for over twenty-eight years and that every year when the students are back speeding increases and she agrees with Alyssa Israel. She would prefer to not have lines like the surrounding streets and that she thinks no lines will make an impact on the speeding problem. Chief Lyddy said that enforcement is the proven method to reduce speed and that Rowland Road is not unique. He will dedicate officers and move them to Rowland Road. Motion made by Commissioner Stone to deny the request; motion seconded by Commissioner Ambrose; carried unanimously.

Old Business: none.

New Business:

- a) Increase beach permit parking fine from \$80.00 to \$200.00. Chief Lyddy said that the Police Department was inundated with complaints in the beach area last weekend and that one hundred and twenty parking tickets were issued in the beach area. Commissioner Lebo said that she checked the beaches last weekend and she couldn't get into the parking lots. Commissioner Ambrose asked if signs should be posted for \$200 parking fines. Chief Lyddy addressed the Commission saying that there can be a public media campaign and can always come back and add towing. Commissioner Millington said that towing is work intensive and could create a manpower nightmare. Chief Lyddy said that they cannot prohibit walk-ins. Commissioner Kiley asked Chief Lyddy where does the money from the parking fines go. Chief Lyddy said 100% goes to the Town. Commissioner Stone suggested have the fines on the signs and Chief Lyddy said it would be too expensive. A motion was made by Commissioner Millington to increase the fines to \$200; motion seconded by Commissioner Stone; carried unanimously.
- b) Donations: Animal Control donations as follows: \$50.00 donation made by Lynn and Caron Keenan, 139 Miro Street, Fairfield; \$50.00 donation made by Stephanie Thompson, 2824 Bronson Road, Fairfield; \$100.00 donation made by John and Elizabeth Chiapperino, 215 Greenfield Hill Road, Fairfield; donation of two \$25.00 Stop & Shop gift cards from Philip Spalla, 1157 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield. Donation of \$500.00 made to the Police Department by Robert Jursch, 1600 Honeysuckle Ridge Court, Annapolis, MD 21401; donation of \$100.00 made to the Police Department by Cherril Kolesik Perrotta, 245 Unquowa Road, Fairfield. Motion made by Commissioner Ambrose to accept the donations; motion seconded by Commissioner Stone; carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cafferelli asked for a motion to add to the agenda “a discussion regarding a need for an August meeting”. Motion made by Commissioner Stone to approve the addition to the agenda; motion seconded by Commissioner Millington; carried unanimously. Commissioner Millington motioned to have a “special” meeting August 12, 2020 at 4:30 pm to discuss staffing and promulgate a promotional list; Commissioner Stone seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cafferelli asked for a motion to add to the agenda “possible dates for the convening of a trial board”. Motion made by Commissioner Pine to approve the addition to the agenda; Commissioner Lebo seconded the motion; carried unanimously. Chief Lyddy asked the Commission if July 21, 2020 or July 28, 2020 could be selected as these are the dates the attorneys are available. Commissioner Millington motioned to select July 21, 2020 at 4:30 pm for a trial board hearing; Commissioner Stone seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

June Monthly Report was reviewed and discussed.

Commissioner Stone made a motion to adjourn at 5:35 pm; motion seconded by Commissioner Lebo; carried unanimously.

Commissioner Millington
Secretary