

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Sept 14, 2022 MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

A regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held on Wednesday September 14, 2022 @ 4:30 pm in the Police Commissions Conference Room, 100 Reef Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

Members Present: Commissioners: Chair Ron Pine, Secretary Peter Ambrose, Charlene Lebo, James Millington, Jack Stone, Joe Cafferelli and Kevin Kiley

Chief Kalamaras, Deputy Chief Keith Broderick, Captain Granata, Lt. Paris, Lt. Irizarry, Captain Peter Koval

The regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners: called to order by Chairman Ron Pine @ at 4:30 pm.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance – recited.

Chief spoke briefly regarding Survey#1 Villa Ave recommendation. Need to adjust the July minutes, as a minor error on Survey #1 occurred. There was no agreement to put in Stop Signs. The intent of the Commission was to approve the “recommendation”, because the Stops signs do not meet the warrants in the MUTCD.

Commissioner Lebo motioned to modify the July 13 minutes. Second by Commissioner Stone. Motion carried.

Commissioner Millington motioned to accept the amended July 13 2022 meeting minutes to read under Survey #1 as follows: Stop signs do not meet the warrants in the MUTCD. Second by Commissioner Cafferelli. Motion unanimously carried.

Presentation of *Officer of the Quarter* to Douglas Katz for the period of October 15, 2022 to January 14, 2023. It is important to note that Officer Katz is the first two-time recipient of this prestigious award.

Chief Kalamaras congratulated Officer of the Quarter Douglas Katz who could not attend.

Recognition of Officer Nicholas Ardizzone and Officer Cassandra Drogan for having completed their probationary period. It is recommended that they be approved as active and good-standing members of the Fairfield Police Department.

Commissioner Lebo motioned to approve Officer Nicholas Adrizzone and Officer Cassandra Drogan as active members of the Fairfield Police Department. Second by Commissioner Millington. Motion carried unanimously.

Traffic Surveys:

SURVEY #1 LOCATION: Sunset Avenue at/between Meadow Street and Rodgers Road/Stephens Lane

NATURE OF REQUEST: Cars and campers are parking under bridge for week on end without moving and littering. Tractor-trailers are parking under the bridge sometimes for days.

Request to install “No Parking” signs on Sunset Avenue between Meadow Street and Rodgers Road/Stephens Lane.

BY WHOM: Eric Derlega

RECOMMENDATION: The LTA is going to table this item and will seek additional guidance regarding a potential Town Ordinance with commercial trucks parking overnight in residential area. DPW to clean up trash on both sides of the road (*work order generated*). DPW to clear overgrown brush on the corners of Sunset Ave at both Rogers Road and Stephens Lane creating a poor line of sight in both directions (*work order generated*).

Commissioner Stone motioned for “No parking signs” on Sunset Ave. between Meadow Street and Rodgers North and South Side. Second by Commissioner Pine. Motion carried unanimously.

SURVEY #2 LOCATION: Reef Road at between Reef Court and Quincy Street

NATURE OF REQUEST: College kids/renters park on Reef Road. They park to the right and left of Cummings Avenue making it very hard to pull out. We have talked to tenants in the past and they disregard our concerns. Request "No Parking" signs to the right and left of Cummings Avenue - Only 50 feet north and south of Cummings Avenue.

BY WHOM: Jessica McCormack

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Deny request for No Parking signs on Reef Road at Cummings Avenue. Request frequent checks for Parking Enforcement purposes on various shifts for violations of “Parking within 25 feet of an intersection”.

From the Public: Jessica Mc Cormack spoke to re inspect area.

Commissioner Pine noted the Police are enforcing the No Parking.

Commissioner Lebo made a motion to accept recommendations as presented. Second by Commissioner Cafferelli. Motion carried.

SURVEY #3 LOCATION: Mill Plain Road between at Unquowa Road and Round Hill Road

NATURE OF REQUEST: Pedestrian Safety on Mill Plain Road. After meeting with Fairfield Bike & Pedestrian Committee and Megha Jain, Engineers Dept. Request additional crosswalks at the following locations.

Mill Plain Road and Lakeside Drive -Students/Families cross before and after school.

Mill Plain Road and Pell Meadow/Sconset -Students/families also cross before and after school.

BY WHOM: Sarah Mason

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Deny request for stop signs and crosswalk at Mill Plain Road and Pell Meadow Drive.

Deny request for additional crosswalk at Mill Plain Road at Lakeside Drive.

The above were denied by LTA due to accessible sidewalks on both sides of Mill Plain Road. Requested crosswalk at Lakeside Drive will hinder the established crosswalk, which has a posted crossing guard during school hours at River field School.

The Commission and Chief spoke in detail regarding the crosswalk request.

Speed Limit sign question regarding 30mph vs 25 mph on Mill Plain Road.

Chief explained how speed limits are determined.

From the Public: Sarah and Brian Mason, 15 Phife Road. Wanted to make sure to mention the safety of the sidewalks. Sarah spoke about how walking on Mill Plain road is very dangerous. Spent time talking to community members whom all agree that we could make Mill Plain Rd safer for everyone.

Went over speeding limit and drivers driving on the shoulder and gave some examples of the issues. Feels we owe to our community and our children to change this before something terrible happens. Not tied to suggestions in her petition, but tied in making steps forward for the safety of the community.

Commissioner Stone agreed speeding an issue; recommend Police enforcement on Mill Plain Rd.

From the Public: Mario Bernardi 21 Lakeside Drive Fairfield. People use Mill Plain Rd as a highway. How do we stop the traffic? Can we re-visit the speed bump? Mill Plain people drive so fast how do we slow them down.

Police Traffic Unit will enforce the area.

From the Public: Jennifer Baranowski 50 Drum Rd. Concurred with everything said so far about speeding, walking, no curbs on Mill Plain Rad. Very faded signs. Do not feel safe on the sidewalks.

Commissioner Millington noted that the Commission cannot tell the Town where to fix or put sidewalks, but can advise them of any issues that come up. For any sidewalks new curbs needs to go through RTM as it goes through the budget process, not through this Commission.

From the Public: Jim Meyers 25 Lawrence Rd. RTM District 8

Jim noted Duck Farm Bridge renovation is a major contributing factor to speed and traffic on Mill Plain Road. People want to get around that area. Not normal times for Mill Plain Rd. School Zone signs are too close to River field School and are hidden by trees. Need better signs, cut the trees back so signs are more visible, and is in favor of a flashing sign that says you are entering a school zone.

From the Public: Kristin Armstrong 1314 Mill Plain Rd.

Agreed with what everybody said and gave her input on how the family utilize the area, and gave examples of how dangerous it is crossing the road. Loved to see flashing lights as school is hidden in residential area. Need more signs, lights.

Commissioner Millington made a motion to accept the recommendation as presented. In addition, request that the trees blocking signs be cut back, and repaint the crosswalks. Second by Commissioner Lebo. Motion unanimously carried.

SURVEY #4 LOCATION: Brooklawn Terrace at/between Euclid Avenue and Stratfield Road

NATURE OF REQUEST: Request Traffic Calming Measures – See Attached

BY WHOM: Daniel Blumenfeld

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Request for traffic calming measures at this location such as the attached mini roundabouts were denied by LTA and Engineering. They determined the area was not large enough (50ft-80ft min) for a mini roundabout, not busy enough with traffic, a hindrance for emergency vehicles such as FD ladder trucks.

Commissioner Millington made a motion to accept the recommendation as presented. Second by Commissioner Caffereli. Motion unanimously carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: Commissioner Millington made a motion to waive the reading of all the donations since they are public record, and to accept the donations as presented below. Second by Commissioner Lebo. Motion unanimously carried.

- a) Recognition of donations made to Animal Control: \$50.00 check from David DiLullo, 500 Angell St., Apt. 231, Providence, R.I. 02906, in loving memory of his sister-in-law, Clare Burnett, who was a lover of dogs and who owned several of them. \$42.86 cash from Mrs. Ifrach's 2nd and 3rd grade classes at Congregation Beth El, 1200 Fairfield Woods Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824 to raise money for animals in need.
- b) \$50.00 check from Donna Pursley, 24 Marjorie Dr., North Branford, CT 06471, as a donation to the Shelter on behalf of animal lover, Avery Wilson's (45 Henry St., Fairfield, CT 06824) birthday.
- c) \$150.00 check from Fairfield Beach Residents Association (Carolyn Kamlet, President and Donna Alatakis, Treasurer), P.O. Box 513, Fairfield, CT 06824, as a donation to benefit the animals in the care of Fairfield Animal Control, and as a token of appreciation to the Department for all that we do for the community.
- d) \$200.00 check from the Melaragno family. Justin Melaragno had a lemonade stand to raise this money because of his love for animals and his chocolate lab, Cadbury.
- e) \$50.00 cash from an anonymous woman, as a donation to the Shelter for the care and well-being of the animals there.
- f) \$251.94 cash donation delivered by 2 young ladies, Avery and Eliah, which was collected as a result of the Greenfield Hill Church bake sale.
- g) \$20.00 cash from Jack and Kate Cooper, who raised money from their lemonade stand on July 31, 2022. They wanted to donate the money to the Shelter to help animals and because it was their dog's birthday.
- h) \$100.00 cash from Gemma and Connor McCusker, 1463 Black Rock Tpke., #6 and Marie Dargin, 1463 Black Rock Tpke., #19, which they raised because of their lemonade stand.

Commissioner Pine noted all donations are for Animal Control. Great to see money coming in from the lemonade stand.

Monthly Report.

Deputy Chief completed the monthly report. Community well attended by most department heads in town. Great speakers at this event. The Fairfield Police Department hosted a Threat Assessment Symposium at the Sacred Heart University Community Theatre as part of its continued mission to ensure a safe community.

Commissioner Millington made a motion to accept the Monthly report presented by D.C. Broderick. Second by Commissioner Lebo. Motion carried.

Commissioner Stone made a Motion to adjourn at 5:26pm. Second by Commissioner Lebo. Motion carried.