

**MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING**

**Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 7:00p.m.  
Town Hall Annex  
66 Prospect Street**

Anyone requiring special accommodations due to disability is asked to contact Headquarters at 438-6531 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

**Commissioners Present:** John Frey, Chairman  
Marianne Coffin  
Sharon Dornfeld  
Ralph Money

**Present by Phone:** Issy Caporale, Secretary

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz  
Major Platt

These minutes are an overview of the meeting; not a verbatim text.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Chairman Frey

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Frey requested a motion to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2023 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Dornfeld made a motion and Commissioner Money seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**Minutes of January 12, 2023 Police Commission Meeting  
accepted as written.**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Voicemail**

No voicemail received for January.

**B. Written Correspondence**

No written correspondence received for January.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** None.

**5. OLD BUSINESS****A. Crosswalk Safety**

North Salem Road resident Lisa DelGiudice, who was present at the meeting, gave a follow-up presentation about her concern about pedestrian safety and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB's) being installed at certain crosswalks in town. She stated that she first presented to the Police Commission in May of 2022 and requested an update. Lisa DelGiudice stated that she has been in contact with State Representative Aimee Berger-Girvalo and received an email from her earlier in the day with an update at the State level. Lisa DelGiudice shared the email with the Police Commission.

Chief Kreitz stated that he, along with the Police Commission, agree that certain mid-block crosswalks should have RRFB's installed. He stated that the State DOT assessed the crosswalk in the area of Main Street/King Lane as well as the one in the area of 90 Danbury Road. However, they did not meet the criteria for funding at that time. He stated that he has been in contact with First Selectman Marconi and State Representative Berger-Girvalo about securing funding for the projects. Chief Kreitz stated that the installation of a RRFB is currently underway at the mid-block crosswalk at Rt. 33/Rockwell Road and that one is being installed at Main St/Big Shop Lane in the near future.

Lisa DelGiudice asked why the pedestrian markings had not been painted on Main Street. Chief Kreitz explained that the State DOT is responsible and that the temperature has not been warm enough for the painting to happen.

Lisa DelGiudice also suggested sidewalks in front of the Recreation Center. A discussion was had as to why this has never been done. Chief Kreitz stated that he believes that the Town has plans to connect the Parks & Recreation walking/running path to the new boardwalk being installed on Ligi's Way.

Commissioner Money thanked Lisa for what she is doing.

Lisa DelGiudice thanked everyone for their time.

**6. CHIEF'S REPORT**

**A. Traffic/Sign Report**

There were no signs installed or replaced since the previous meeting.

**B. Training/PR Report**

The following report was submitted by Capt. Jeff Raines, Division of Professional Standards.

**Ridgefield Police Department  
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report  
January 2023**

**Training Attended:**

- Jan. 4-5:** All department personnel attended CPR recertification training at HQ, taught by Captain Smith.
- Jan. 23-27:** Lieutenant Durling, Lieutenant Knoche and Officer Romero attended Tri-Annual Re-cert training at the Newtown PD.
- Jan. 25:** Detective DuBord attended Digital Evidence Search Warrant Preparation training online, via ZOOM.
- Jan. 26:** Detective Ryan attended Evidence Collection and New Technologies at POSTC in Meriden, CT.
- Jan. 26:** Sergeant Caswell attended Police Pursuits: Legal Liability and Best Practices training online, via ZOOM.

**P/R Events:**

- Jan. 25:** Captain Raines and Detective Dardis attended a safety meeting at The Prospector Theater, which was held for management.

There were no other events held during the month of January.

**Upcoming Events:**

There are no upcoming events posted for the month of February yet.

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A total of 18 Public Relations were performed during the month(s) to include:

- Officers met with the staff and children at the Shir Shalom Temple.
- Several car seat installations were performed.
- Officers met with local businesses and spoke with employees.
- Officers attended a child's birthday party.
- Officers performed a tour of HQ for some children.
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages.

### **C. Department Stats**

Chief Kretiz reported the total number of incidents for the month of January 2023 was 1,385. He highlighted some of the statistics for the month.

Chief Kreitz provided an update on the consolidated dispatch and added that the projected date of implementation is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Kreitz also stated that the Police Department is in the process of hiring a new police officer to fill a vacancy.

## **7. UNION PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **A. Discuss Employee Performance – Officer of the Year**

**Commissioner Money made a motion to go into Executive Session at 08:22pm. Commissioner Coffin seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor**

**The Police Commission returned to Public Session at 08:30pm.**

**Commissioner Coffin made a motion to name Officer Michael McKnight as Ridgefield Police Department's Officer of the Year for 2022. Commissioner Money seconded the motion. By unanimous**

**consent, the commission applauded all the nominees for Officer of the Year. The Police Commission also complemented the Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants, who took the time to write such thorough and thoughtful nominations for several outstanding officers.**

**All in Favor**

**Congratulations to Officer Michael McKnight for a job well done!**

**Commissioner Dornfeld made a motion to adjourn the Police Commission Meeting at 08:39pm. Commissioner Coffin seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously,**

Respectfully Submitted,

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John Frey  
Police Commission Chairman