

**Town of Ridgefield Police Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting Location: Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Sharon Dornfeld (Chair), Issy Caporale (Secretary), Ralph Money (by phone) Stephen Riebling

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** John Frey

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Jeff Kreitz, Major Nick Fowler & Amy Platt

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

**Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Ralph Money to approve the February 2026 meeting minutes. Seconded by Issy Caporale. Motion carried 3-0.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A.** John Keegan, 6 Clearview Dr. requested clarification on the Town's snow removal policy; Concerned about neighbors removing snow from their driveway into the road, and asked at what point can they be fined? Mr. Keegan will contact Chief Kreitz to schedule a meeting.
- B.** Dan Tewes, 304 Main St. following up regarding concerns of speeding on Main Street.

With unanimous consent, the meeting agenda was amended to move Old Business after Public Comment.

**3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Voicemail** – None

**B. Written Correspondence** –

- Request for Highway Use Permit for a Remembrance Parade from Jesse Lee Church to Ballard Park on April 25, 2026. The permit was unanimously approved.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Automated Traffic Safety Enforcement Devices (ATSED)**

Sgt. Matthew Seibert conducted a review in February and shared the Department's findings. Ridgefield does not meet the thresholds or demonstrate the safety need required to justify implementing an ATSED program at this time.

Mr. Tewes noted that the data presented by Sgt. Seibert indicated that at least 10,000 vehicles were recorded traveling above the posted speed limit during the traffic study evaluation period.

The data presented showed the following:

Of the approximately 72,000 vehicles traveling on Main Street near the Aldrich Museum between February 13 and February 20, the 85th percentile speed was 35 mph, meaning that 85% of vehicles were traveling at or below 35 mph. The 95th percentile speed was 38 mph, meaning that 95% of the vehicles were traveling at or below 38 mph.

**5. NEW BUSINESS** – None

**6. CHIEF'S REPORT**

**A. Traffic / Sign Report** – Submitted by Sgt. Matt Seibert

**Sign Repair/Maintenance:**

- In talks with the State regarding discrepancies with the future state Project 0170-3757 - speed limit signs on local rural roads in Districts 3 & 4 (i.e., Installing new speed limit signs in the Ridgebury area).
- Received complaint re: sight lines in the Old Sib Road/Blue Ridge Road intersection. Town Highway Dept. cleared snow from the intersection to help sight lines. Tree trimming and/or removal will be prioritized in this area this summer.
- Several stop signs and speed limit signs were ordered in preparation for spring replacements from snow loss/accidents over the winter.

**B. Training & Public Relations Report** – Submitted by Cpt. John Knoche

Throughout the month of February, several officers were assigned to meet with the business owners and employees of the Main Street businesses to gather input. Officers also met frequently with religious institutions. Both Jewish Temples in town were frequently monitored due to recent world events.

**Public Relations Events:**

A total of 21 Public Relations were performed, including:

- Officers met with the staff and children at the Shir Shalom Temple & St. Mary's Church.
- K9 demonstration for local Scouts and the BGCR Keystone Club
- Scout tour of Ridgefield Police Department
- Response Assessment at Ridgebury Farms and Stables
- Several car seat installations were performed.
- Officers met with local businesses and spoke with employees.
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regard to Police Activities & Safety Messages

**Training Attended:**

- Several Officers attended Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) at Ridgefield Fire (RFD) HQ
- Ofc. Pagliuco attended CPR Instructor Training at RPD HQ
- Ofc.'s Bloom & Theodore attended Police Officer Recertification in Bridgeport, CT
- Ofc. Pagliuco attended SFST/Wetlab Training at Danbury Police Dept.
- Ofc. Ladue attended Field Training Officer (FTO) Training taught by Lt. DiFalco at the Milford Police Academy
- Lt. Van Wattum and Sgt. Olivares attended Regional Emergency Response Team training
- Ofc. Biros & Capt. Durling attended School Threat Assessment Training at WCSU

**Upcoming Events:** Citizen Police Academy begins March 18, 2026 at Police headquarters.

**C. Department Statistics**

- Chief Kreitz shared the Department's monthly incident statistics.

**D. Miscellaneous**

- Chief Kreitz advised the Board that the State requirements for Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) certifications has been revised. Officers will maintain certifications in CPR/AED and First Aid as taught by the Connecticut Police Academy, but will no longer carry oxygen. Officers will respond to major medical emergencies along with the RFD and will continue providing an exceptional level of care to members of the community. Chief Kreitz stated that RFD Chief Rommie Duckworth, who is also the Town's EMS Coordinator, agrees with this decision.

**7. UNION PARTICIPATION** – No Union business was discussed.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION****A. Review Chief Kreitz' Annual Goals and Discussion on Salary Adjustment**

At 8:15 pm the Board moved to Executive Session.

The Board returned to public session at 8:48 pm.

No votes were taken.

Motion made by Issy Caporale to make a conditional offer of employment to Sylvia Visconti for Probationary Patrol Officer. Seconded by Stephen Riebling. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Issy Caporale to approve Chief Kreitz' annual goals. Seconded by Stephen Riebling. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Stephen Riebling to recommend to the Board of Selectpersons that Chief Kreitz receive a \$10,000 salary adjustment to eliminate existing salary compression. Seconded by Issy Caporale. Motion carried 3-0.

With no further business, Stephen Riebling moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Issy Caporale seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**REMINDER: Next meeting Thursday, April 9, 2025 at 7:00pm**