

**MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING**

**Thursday, March 14, 2024 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:** Sharon Dornfeld, Chairperson  
Marianne Coffin  
John Frey  
Ralph Money

**Absent:** Isabel Caporale, Secretary

**Also Present:** Chief Jeff Kreitz

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Chairperson Dornfeld

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairperson Dornfeld requested a motion to accept the minutes of the February 8, 2024 Police Commission Meeting. Commissioner Money made a motion and Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.

**All in Favor**

**Minutes of the February 8, 2024 Police Commission Meeting accepted as written.**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Andrea Beebe, from Main Street, expressed her concern about motorists parking in handicap spots on Main Street without displaying the appropriate placard. Chief Kreitz stated that the Patrol Division has been keeping an eye out for such violations and the Uniform Division Commander is aware. Chief Kreitz suggested she call dispatch when she observes a violation and that an officer would be sent. Commissioner Dornfeld stated that the Parking Authority also enforces these violations.

Andrea stated that she noticed that the traffic congestion has increased on Main Street. Chief Kreitz stated that the State DOT was just out resetting the timing of the lights to maximize traffic flow and efficiency.

Andrea stated that cars park and block the alleyway south of 381 Main Street, believing that it is a parking space. Chief Kreitz stated that he would determine what markings would be appropriate to alleviate confusion.

Andrea ended by stating the police are doing a great job.

**3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Voicemail**

There were no voicemails received for the month of February.

**B. Written Correspondence**

Chief Kreitz stated he received two Highway Use Permits, which were signed by Chairperson Dornfeld.

Run Like a Mother	5-12-24	0800-1000
Memorial Day Parade	5-27-24	1100-1300

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Public Safety Building Update**

Things are moving forward with the Public Safety Building; April 2<sup>nd</sup> is the next meeting.

**6. CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Kreitz stated that Police Officer Fernando Luis has retired after serving the Town of Ridgefield for 27 years. Chief Kreitz thanked him for his years of service and a job well done. The entire Commission thanked him for his dedicated service to the Department and the community.

Chief Kreitz stated the police department is accepting applications for the position of police officer. He added that the application process closes April 7<sup>th</sup> and that we have seats reserved for the July POSTC Academy class.

**A. Traffic/Sign Report**

The following report was submitted by Sgt. Mark Caswell, Sign Officer.

Subject: March 2024 Sign Report

Sign Repair

Repaired the Stop sign at Pound Street and Main Street  
Repaired the Pedestrian Ahead sign on Prospect Ridge Road  
Repaired the Curve Ahead sign at Farmingville Road and New Road  
Replaced the 30mph Speed Limit on Farmingville Road

**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  
February 2024**

**Training Attended:**

**Feb. 15-16:** Officer Bloom attended Basic Interview & Interrogation at the Darien Police Department.

**Feb.19:** Recruit Vincent, Recruit Tamburino and Recruit Girdvainis attended Taser training at HQ, which was taught by Captain Raines. The Brookfield Police Department also sent two Officers that needed to be certified.

**Feb. 19-23:** Officer Seibert and Officer Williams attended Tri-Annual Re-cert training at the University of Bridgeport (UB).

**Feb. 21:** Sergeant Brown, Sergeant Caswell, Officer Olivares, Officer McKnight, Officer Kay attended Defensive Driving for Police, hosted by CIRMA at the Fairfield Police Department

**Feb. 21:** Captain Raines and Officer McMahon attended Statewide Accreditation training at POSTC.

**P/R Events:**

**Feb. 22:** Captain Raines and Sergeant DiFalco attended the CT Law Enforcement Torch Run ceremony, held at the Foxwoods Casino & Resort. The RPD was awarded a plaque for raising just over \$10,000 in 2023.

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

**Upcoming Events:**

The Ridgefield Police Department is hosting the 2024 Citizen Police Academy, starting March 20<sup>th</sup>. They will meet every Wednesday night from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. We encourage anyone who hasn't attended to attend.

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A total of 11 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 performed tours of HQ for several groups of children.
- Officers met with local businesses and spoke with employees.
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages.

**C. DEPARTMENT STATS**

Chief Kreitz stated the total number of incidents for the month of February 2024 was 1,479.

**7. Union Participation**

None.

**8. Executive Session - Personnel Matters**

**A. Chief's Goals**

**B. ACO Equipment**

**Commissioner Frey made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:43pm. Commissioner Money seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously**

**The Police Commission returned to Public Session at 8:15pm.**

**Commissioner Coffin made a motion to approve the Chief's Goals for 2024. Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously**

**Commissioner Money made a motion to adjourn at 8:20pm. Commissioner Frey seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sharon Dornfeld  
Police Commission Chairperson