

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING

**Thursday, August 8, 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
Issy Caporale, Secretary
Marianne Coffin
John Frey
Ralph Money

Also Present: Chief Jeff Kreitz
Major Shawn Platt

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 June 19, 2024 Police Commission Special Meeting. Commissioner Money made a motion and Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.

All in Favor

Minutes of the June 19, 2024 Police Commission Special Meeting accepted as written.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

A. Voicemail

Commissioner Caporale stated there were no voicemail for the month of July.

B. Written Correspondence

Chief Kreitz stated he received one Highway Use Permit, which was signed by Chairperson Dornfeld.

Southwest Cafe' Margarita 5k 07/27/24 1900-2030

4. NEW BUSINESS

None.

5. OLD BUSINESS**A. Public Safety Building Update**

Chief Kreitz stated that in addition to the public information sessions that he, Chief Myers, Rudy Marconi, and Jake Muller have presented to various groups in town about the project. He stated that there have been numerous tours of headquarters for members of the public during scheduled tours dates as well as upon request. Commissioner Money added that there is a video tour of headquarters on the project website. Chief Kreitz stated that there are postcards available to the public with information on the project. The postcard has a QR code that will direct you to the website. Chief Kreitz added that there will be a working group meeting on August 22, 2024.

6. CHIEF'S REPORT**A. Traffic/Sign Report**

The following report was submitted by Sgt. Mark Caswell, Sign Officer for the months of June and July.

Re: June/July 2024 Sign Report
Sign/Repair/Maintenance

Replaced 2 Stop signs on High Ridge Ave.
Replaced 2 25 MPH Speed Limit signs on Silver Spring Road.
Replaced the Stop sign at Silver Spring Park Road and White Birch Road.
Replaced the Stop sign at White Birch Road and Silver Spring Lane.
Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on St John's Road.
Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on White Birch Road.
Repaired the Yield sign on Silver Brook Road.
Replaced the Stop sign at Ligi's Way and Farmingville Road.
Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on Longview Drive.
Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on Ridgewood Road.
Replaced the Curve Right sign on Ridgewood Road.
Installed 4 No Parking signs and a 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on Cooper Hill Road.
Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on Cedar Lane.
Replaced a Right Curve sign and 2 Multi Curve signs on Spectacle Lane.

Replaced the 25 MPH Speed Limit sign on Gay Road.
Replaced 2 Stop Ahead signs on Grove Street.
Replaced the Stop sign at East Ridge Road and Governor Street.

B. TRAINING/PR REPORT

The following reports were submitted by Capt. Jeff Raines, Division of Professional Standards for the months of June and July.

**Ridgefield Police Department
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report
June 2024**

Training Attended:

- June 6:** Captain Fowler and Captain Raines attended the 2024 Emergency Vehicle Display training event at Lime Rock Park.
- June 18:** SRO Giglio and SRO Seibert attended Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines training, which was held at the Ridgefield Board of Ed.
- June 20-21:** Captain Fowler, Detective Ladue, Officer Seibert and Officer Bloom attended a Search and Rescue training class, which was taught by a member of the Westport Marine Division. Day one was at HQ and day two was in the L.I. sound in Westport, CT.
- June 25:** SRO Williams attended Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines training, which was held at the Ridgefield Board of Ed.

P/R Events:

- June 6:** Officer McKnight and K9 Odin performed a K9 demonstration at the St. Mary's School.
- June 11:** The RHS Intern (Matthew Mullen) successfully completed his internship with our department.
- June 12:** A Swearing-In and Awards ceremony took place at the Lounsbury House. Officer William Almonte was sworn in and will start the police academy on July 12, 2024. Officer of the Year was presented to the 2023 recipient, as well as several other awards over the past year. (MADD, Unit Citation, Exceptional Service)

June 28: Members of the PBA volunteered at a “Tip-A-Cop” event, which was held at 850 Wood Fired Restaurant. This event benefited Special Olympics of Connecticut.

Upcoming Events:

July 11: Officer Andrew Vincent, Officer David Tamburino and Officer Gary Girdvainis will be graduating from the Connecticut Municipal Police Academy, with the 381st Session.

July 29: We will be hosting our annual Junior Police Academy (JPA) at Headquarters from July 29th through August 2nd.

A total of 12 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 gave several Rides-To-School. (Gift Certificate recipients)
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages

The four SRO’s will be attending a Back-To-School PSA at WFSB Channel 3 on August 7th.

**Ridgefield Police Department
Training & Community Policing/Public Relations Report
July 2024**

Training Attended:

July 11: Officer Vincent, Officer Tamburino and Officer Girdvainis all graduated from the Connecticut Police Academy as part of the 381st Session.

July 12: Officer Almonte started at POSTC in Meriden, CT as part of the 383rd Session. He is set to graduate in January of 2025.

July 14-19: SRO Giglio, SRO Seibert and SRO Williams attended the annual NASRO Conference for School Resource Officers, which was hosted in Phoenix, AZ this year.

P/R Events:

July 25: Major Platt, Captain Fowler and Captain Raines attended First Responders Night at Dunkin Park, in Hartford, CT.

July 27: Officer McKnight and K9 Odin attended Touch-A-Truck at the Lounsbury House. It was part of the Summer Fest event.

July 29-August 28: SRO Seibert, SRO Williams and SRO Vasquez hosted the 2024 Junior Police Academy at HQ. Several Instructors assisted throughout the week. It was approximately 38 children this year and was great success, once again.

Upcoming Events:

The four SRO's will be attending a Back-To-School PSA at WFSB Channel 3 on August 7th.

A total of 10 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.
- Multiple Social Media posts were put out in regards to Police Activities & Safety Messages.

Chief Kreitz mentioned that traffic details will continue.

C. DEPARTMENT STATS

Chief Kreitz stated the total number of incidents for the month of June 2024 was 1,425 and for July was 1,563. He highlighted some of the statistics for the two months.

Chief Kreitz mentioned he is proud of the way the officers responded to the incident this past Saturday. He stated they did a flawless job

while working together as a team. Chairperson Dornfeld, while speaking for all the police commissioners, stated that they are equally proud and that they all appreciate what our officers do each and every day.

7. Union Participation

None.

**Commissioner Money made a motion to adjourn at 7:49pm.
Commissioner Caporale seconded the motion.**

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Issy Caporale
Police Commission Secretary