

MINUTES

WATERTOWN POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

TOWN HALL ANNEX

WEDNESDAY, April 13, 2011, 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: James Blais, Chairman
Patricia Kropp
Gary Lafferty
Mark Tedesco
Jack Walton, V. Chairman/Secretary

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: John Gavallas, Police Chief
Robert Desena, Deputy Chief

1. **Convene Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.**
Chairman, Jim Blais called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
Executed the roll call.
3. **Public Participation - none**

Motion: (Patricia Kropp sec. Gary Lafferty) move discussion item 6a to follow item 3
Aye: 5
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0

6. **Action Items**
 - a. **SRTS (Safe Routes to School) Discussion by Roy Cavanaugh**
Update on Sunnyside Project starting this week.

Highlights:

Culvert on Sunnyside and Falls Avenue will be taken out for 2 months in summer
Signs put up on Route 8 advising alternate routes around Watertown
CL&P cuts
Contractor will be taking out bridge next winter
Met with residents last week regarding traffic

Mr. Blais asked the length of time on this project?

Mr. Cavanaugh: the contractors permit goes through to October 2012.

Connecticut Safe Routes to Schools Program is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration administered by DOT.

Superintendent Baldwin would like to proceed with the program.

The infrastructure component which would be funded 100% is for safety improvements for bicycling and pedestrians within 2 miles of any elementary school.

Chief John Gavallas said he would be in support of this program it would reach out to young people with pedestrian safety.

Motion: (Garry Lafferty sec. Patricia Kropp) the Police Commission would give its support to continue exploration of program.

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular meeting – March 16, 2011

Motion: (Mark Tedesco sec. Patricia Kropp) to accept meeting minutes of March 16, 2011.

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Chairman Blais noted to amend the minutes for February 16, 2011 to move first line on Chairman's report to Chief's Report.

5. Correspondence

a. Correspondence – Dot letter concerning Taft School request for traffic/pedestrian control on DeForest St. and Woodruff Avenue.

Motion: (Mark Tedesco sec. Patricia Kropp) approve further study for traffic/pedestrian control by Roy Cavanaugh.

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

6. Action Items

b. Drug Safety Education Discussion

DARE program cancelled due to staffing, economic issues and training involvement of officer. Working with Ms. Baldwin and one lieutenant going to the high school to give lectures on subjects of interest.

c. Bike/Pedestrian Safety Discussion

Discussion earlier with Mr. Cavanaugh and will see what direction that program takes.

7. Chairman's Report

Mr. Blais reported:

The Charter Revision Committee approved all the items that the commission recommended except the recommendation for meeting once a month.

8. Chief's Report

a. Month 2011 – Police Dept. Activity

9. Adjournment

MOTION: (Gary Lafferty sec. Mark Tedesco) to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Aye: 5

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0