

TOWN OF EAST LYME  
POLICE COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2019  
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Daniel Price, Mark Nickerson, Marc Powers, Lisa Pellegrini and Tony Buglione  
EXCUSED: Joseph Perkins and Giancarlo D'Angelo  
Also in Attendance: Police Chief Mike Finkelstein and Administrative Sgt. Mike Macek

Mr. Price called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Delegations

There were none.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Motion by Ms. Pellegrini to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 14, 2019, as submitted.  
Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 5-0.

5a. Discussion – Public Safety Building Vision Committee

DISCUSSION: Mr. Price reported that the Committee created two sub-committees; a Work Scope sub-committee and a RFQ Review subcommittee. Chief Finkelstein reported that the Work Scope sub-committee has met once and also toured the Stonington Police Department, with another tour scheduled for Ledyard Police Department in the near future. Stonington Police Department is ~20 years old and the Ledyard Police Department is fairly new, so both tours will provide valuable information for our Vision Committee to work from. Mr. Price reported that the RFQ Review sub-committee is meeting tonight also and is working to narrow the applicants down to three or four and send a final recommendation to the Vision Committee by their next meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

6a. Lyme Shore Tennis & Fitness Parking Modification Request

DISCUSSION: Chief Finkelstein reported that they have requested a modification in on-street parking for October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Currently Colton Road is no parking on both sides, and they are requesting that they be allowed to park on one side of the street for their event in October. Chief stated that he sees no problem with suspending the no parking rule for this event only, and recommended that the Commission approve the request. The logistics of how to set up temporary signage will be worked on after approval, and all of our officers will be made aware of the temporary suspension of parking regulations in advance.

MOTION (2)

Mr. Powers MOVED that the request for temporary modification of parking regulations on Colton Road for an event held by Lyme Shore Tennis & Fitness on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> be approved.  
Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 5-0.

7a. Chief's Report

Chief Finkelstein summarized the monthly report for March 2019, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The Chief reported that the O'Niantic 5K went well and was well attended, despite the cold weather. He reported that they have received a lot of applications for the part-time Animal Control Officer position, but that none of the applicants hold the required certification. The next certification course is scheduled in August, so for the time being the full-time ACO has agreed to cover the part-time shifts as well as his own shifts. Sgt. Macek reported on the budget for payroll, and stated that because of a glitch in the accounting software after a recent upgrade, some officer payroll was coming out of the foot and patrol account instead of the salary account, so these numbers were wrong but have now been corrected. Chief Finkelstein reported that the Niantic Motel has recently had a change in ownership, and the hope is that a big hotel chain will take over and renovate the property. Regarding false alarms, they are working

FILED

APR 17 20 19 AT 12:25 AM/PM  
*Karen Macek*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

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to create a policy to deal with repeat offenders. Chief reported that the Board of Finance held a thorough discussion regarding the police budget and adding two police officers. Regarding promotions, he advised that the testing portion of the process is complete, and that he will be presenting the top three candidates for promotion to the Police Commission at an upcoming meeting. There has been no word thus far on official dates for the three expected retirements. A brief discussion was held on the four upcoming bridge projects that the State DOT has planned; Route 1 near Lover's Lane, Niantic River Bridge, Exit 74 / I95 widening and Flanders Road upgrades, and the four Mile River Road Bridge on Route 156. He stated that the town is working hard with the DOT to keep at least one lane open on each of these projects, but there may be short periods of time when the roads will be closed and detours in place. Regarding the Dispatchers budget, because of all of the overtime that is being paid out this budget is just about out of money and they will have to request a transfer to cover salaries for the rest of the fiscal year. This problem will be solved if the Board of Finance approves the request for an additional full-time dispatcher.

#### 8. Chairman's Report

Mr. Price stated that they had covered everything that he wanted to cover, so no additional report was necessary.

#### 9a. Subcommittee Reports

There were none.

At this time, it was agreed that the Commission would hear public comment before they go into Executive Session.

#### 11. Public Comment

Mr. Stephen Rebelowski, 24 MacKinnon Place, addressed the Commission and stated that he is the President of the East Lyme Police Benevolent Association. He noted that the Town has not properly represented at the wakes and funerals of retired East Lyme police officers that have passed. He asked that this Commission work with the Chief of Police to make sure that going forward these fallen officers are properly respected. Chief Finkelstein stated that he will make sure that going forward the Police Department properly represents at all future fall officers wakes and funerals.

#### Executive Session

##### MOTION (3)

Mr. Nickerson MOVED to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues and possible union negotiations and strategies, and to include Chief of Police Michael Finkelstein. Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 5-0.

They entered into executive session at 6:28 p.m. They returned at 6:52 p.m. and Chairman Price stated that no formal votes were taken.

#### 12. Commission Response

There was none.

#### 14. Adjournment

##### MOTION (4)

Ms. Pellegrini MOVED to adjourn the April 11, 2019, regular meeting of the Police Commission at 6:52 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sandra Anderson  
Recording Secretary

# EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – March 2019



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**Section 1 : Noteworthy incidents/information**

**Section 2 : Staffing**

**Section 3 : Administrative**

**Section 4 : Statistical Activity Summary**

## Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents/Information

- O’Niantic 5K safely brought thousands to Niantic.
- The East Lyme Vision Committee continues to meet to plan the East Lyme Public Safety building.

## Section 2: Staffing

- Working with Waterford and the ACO to fill the vacant Part Time ACO position
- Anticipated that at least three retirements will occur within the coming year. Four additional Officers are eligible to retire.

## Section 3: Administrative

### Accident Analysis

- 16 Accidents
- 4 Crashes on Main St/W. Main St
- 3 Crashes on Flanders Rd
- 3 Boston Post Rd

### East Lyme Dispatch Center

- 1,544 phone call volume for the month, which does not include Police phone line.
- Busiest hours –4pm (119), 3pm (102), 9am (94)

### Animal Control Division Activity

- 21 Animal Incident Calls in East Lyme

### Budgetary

- Total Budget – 76%
- Overtime – 81%
- Asset Forfeiture Balance - \$13,545

### Use of force

- No use of force



