

TOWN OF EAST LYME  
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 11, 2020

MINUTES

This meeting was held via Zoom online meeting services and was available for the public to view, listen and participate via videoconference and dial-in options.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Price, Mark Powers, Joseph Perkins, Tony Buglione, Giancarlo D'Angelo, Stephen Rebelowski and Lisa Pellegrini

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Mark Nickerson, State Representative Holly Cheeseman, Police Chief Mike Finkelstein and Administrative Sgt. Mike Macek

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Motion by Mr. Powers to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 21, 2020, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Chief's Report

Chief Finkelstein gave his report, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. He reported that the purchase of a new CAD records management system was approved at last night's Board of Finance meeting, so they will begin working with NEXGEN to get the system implemented. The Police Department continues to receive many thank you notes, including a letter of appreciation from Broadway Kids. Chief Finkelstein reported that Officer Matthew Roland has retired from the Department as of May 31, 2020, and that Sergeant Terry Saffioti has announced that he will retire as of July 1, 2020. They have opened lateral positions on Police App to fill these vacancies; there are now three positions total to be filled this year.

Chief Finkelstein stated that they have begun reviewing our Police Departments policies, and he has been working with State Representative Holly Cheeseman to discuss statewide use of force policies. We have good Policemen and Women in our Police Department, but there is always room for training and improvement. It was noted that use of force policies, as well as de-escalation methods, are part of almost every other training that they are required to take on a yearly basis. Mr. Rebelowski mirrored that sentiment by stating that over the last few years, training in de-escalation techniques has increased significantly. Ms. Cheeseman stated that this is and will continue to be a collaborative process between state and local agencies, and she looks forward to continuing the meetings and collaboration with the Chief. Chief Finkelstein noted that Connecticut is already far above other states in training and policies. It was discussed that the cost of body cams and the needed storage is very high, and that remains something that our police department will continue to look into. Chairman Price stated that the Polices and Procedures Subcommittee will meet soon for a review of our current policies.

Mr. Rebelowski took a moment to remember Eric Kwasniewski, who passed away recently. He was known by everyone in town as "Kwas" and he knew everyone by name. He served the people of East Lyme

FILED

June 23 2020 AT 3:00 AM/PM

*[Handwritten Signature]*

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Police Commission

June 11, 2020

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for 36 years before retiring from the department in 2007 with two distinguished service awards, the Blue Knight, The Life Saving Award, Meritorious Service, Police Start Award and a State of CT Purple Heart. Eric loved the Town of East Lyme and its residents and would do anything for this community. He also served as a member of the Niantic Firehouse for 55 years. Chief Finkelstein stated that a parade was held recently in honor of his birthday, and that he will be sorely missed and his dedication to the Town is greatly appreciated. Mr. D'Angelo noted that Eric was also a combat Veteran, who served in Vietnam.

4. Chairman's Report

There was none.

5. Public Comment

There was none.

6. Commission Response

There was none.

7. Adjournment

MOTION (2)

Mr. Buglione MOVED to adjourn the June 11, 2020, regular meeting of the Police Commission at 6:41 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Powers. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Anderson  
Recording Secretary

# EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – May 2020



**CONTENTS**

**Section 1 : Noteworthy incidents/information**

**Section 2 : Community Outreach and Correspondence**

**Section 3 : Administrative**

**Section 4 : Statistical Activity Summary**

### **Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents/Information**

- Budget approved. Including new CAD/RMS & Boat Motor
- Homicide
- Letter of appreciation Broadway Kids
- Continue to receive multiple gestures of thanks from community

### **Section 2: Staffing**

Officer Matthew Roland retired from the Department effective May 31, 2020.

Sergeant Terry Saffioti has provided notice of his intent to retire effective July 1, 2020

The East Lyme Police Department has opened lateral level positions within Police App.

### **Section 3: Administrative**

#### Accident Analysis

- 15 Accidents
- 3 Crashes Boston Post Rd
- 2 Crashes on Flanders Rd
- 2 Crashes on Main St/W. Main St

#### East Lyme Dispatch Center

- 1,299 phone call volume for the month, which does not include Police phone line.
- Busiest hours –12 pm (90), 4pm (89), 2pm (86)

#### Animal Control Division Activity

- 24 Animal Incident Calls in East Lyme

#### Budgetary

- Total Budget – 90% (PD), 85% (ACO), 96% (Disp)
- Overtime – 94%
- Asset Forfeiture Balance - \$18,559

#### Emergency Committals

- 5 Emergency Committals
- 1 overdoses
- 0 Narcan use

#### Special Response Areas

- 4 Calls for service at Rocky Neck Park (9 YTD)
- 29 Calls for service at hotels (247 YTD)





# East Lyme Police Department Monthly Report



May 28, 2020

Chief Michael Finkelstein  
East Lyme Police Department  
Main Street,  
Niantic, CT 06357

Dear Chief Finkelstein,

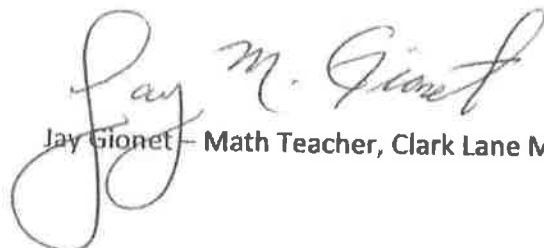
As teachers in our community, we know the importance of making positive connections with our students so we can focus on the lesson of the day. It may be linear equations in a math classroom or it may be the final revisions for a dance in a theater performance. However, lately we have to adjust our focus and placed the need to provide emotional support as the top item on our lesson plans before we can even think of working on the skills we specialize in as teachers. We can tell you that looking into our computer screens during Zoom meetings we see so many sad faces impacted by this pandemic. Whatever we can do for our students to help them through this has been our focus every day.

On Sunday, May 2, we worked together with members of your department to honor 4 girls who are members of Broadway Kids and Company, School of Performing Arts. Each girl is a senior in high school this year and spent countless hours during the many years they have been members of the company. The celebration would not have been as special without the help of your police staff. We would like to thank Officer Dan Lane or the Waterford Police Department for coordinating every detail with us. He assured that first and foremost everyone would be safe and we would travel on the roads following proper rules and regulations. Second he assured that each girl and their family had a memory that would last a life time! He worked with us to assure everyone had the time needed to share congratulations and special gifts. Finally he coordinated with the East Lyme Police Department as we traveled into Niantic to honor the last member of the company. To Dan, and all the officers in East Lyme and Waterford who assisted in this effort...THANK YOU!

We want you to know that we received so many positive compliments from the 4 girls, their families and the participants in the parade, in regards to the support that was provided. We have witnessed many other celebrations in our community that were supported by your departments and we appreciate your efforts. Please continue to support our youth in these tough times knowing that the whole community appreciates what each and every officer is doing for the good of the community.



Kristin Burrows – Director, Broadway Kids and Company –  
School of Performing Arts



Jay Gionet – Math Teacher, Clark Lane MS