

TOWN OF EAST LYME
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 30, 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 and Stephen Rebelowski

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Lisa Pellegrini

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

Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Executive Session

MOTION (1)

Motion by Mr. D'Angelo to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues, and to include Ex-Officio member First Selectman Mark Nickerson, Chief of Police Michael Finkelstein and Administrative Sgt. Mike Macek. Mr. Nickerson noted that Sgt. Macek will be leaving executive session prior to the Lieutenant position discussion.

Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 6-0.

The Board of Police Commissioners entered into executive session at 6:05 p.m. They returned at 7:32 p.m. and Chairman Price stated that no formal votes were taken.

3. New Police Officer

MOTION (2)

Motion by Mr. D'Angelo to hire Candidate #2.

Seconded by Mr. Buglione. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Lieutenant Position

MOTION (3)

Motion by Mr. D'Angelo to expand the Lieutenant position to two positions, and to hire Mike (Macek) and Dana (Jeziarski).

Seconded by Mr. Perkins. Motion passed 6-0.

5. Chairman's Report

Chairman Price stated that the Board of Finance voted down the project and it will not be going to referendum. With the new Police Accountability law going into effect, we will be required to have a police department with cell blocks within five years in order to be certified. Mr. Price stated that removing the

FILED

Aug 5, 2020 AT 8:15 AM/PM
Brooke Strawn TFC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

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elevator and some other items would bring the total to \$6M, but still leaves the project \$1M short. He stated that the police cannot stay in the current building, so one of the options is to move them in and fix things as we go. He noted that it is going to take \$400K just to move the computers. Mr. Price stated that he would like to get everyone's thoughts on how to proceed, and that he would like to move forward and push for the \$7M project with cells and dispatch, as presented by the Vision Committee.

Mr. Nickerson stated that members of the Vision Committee are speaking with the architects to review viable options, but the Board of Selectmen met last night, and they are adamant that the project get done in full and get done right. One of the options may be to go back to the Board of Finance with the original plan and try again to get project to referendum.

Mr. Perkins suggested that this commission, with the help of Chief Finkelstein, compile the details of what would need to be done to the current building and the cost of said work in order for our police department to be accredited. He noted that we also will need to purchase body cameras within the next year and a half; Chief Finkelstein reported that he has the quotes for those and that they are working on that purchase, which will need to happen fast.

It was discussed that the Police Commission members should be prepared to speak about the need to get our police department certified, since this is an issue that was not present before the Police Accountability law was introduced.

Mr. Nickerson stated that the Board of Selectman will be meeting and discussing this at their August 5th meeting next week, and that he expects that we would want to talk about maybe removing the elevator and maybe some other items to get the total project cost down. The important thing is to speak about the urgency to get our police officers out of the current building and into the new one, not only for health and safety reasons, but because it is necessary now in order for the department to get Certified.

6. Adjournment

MOTION (4)

Mr. Buglione MOVED to adjourn the July 30, 2020, special meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners at 7:55 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. D'Angelo. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Anderson
Recording Secretary