

TOWN OF EAST LYME  
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 14, 2024

MINUTES

Members Present: Tony Buglione, Regina Hitchery, Joe Perkins, Dan Price, Stephen Rebelowski, Resa Spaziani and Paul Vincenti

Staff Present: Chief Finkelstein, Lt. Jezierski, Lt. Macek and First Selectman Dan Cunningham

Resa Spaziani was sworn in by Chairman Dan Price. Resa Spaziani made a solemn oath that she will faithfully discharge, according to the law, the duties as stated for the Town of East Lyme, to the best of her ability so help her God.

1. Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Delegations

Donald Bridge Jr., 13 Goodwin Street, Niantic, President of the Attawan Beach Association spoke regarding the material he presented to the board members and staff regarding golf cart use in Attawan Beach. A vote taken by Attawan Beach residents resulted in favor of golf cart use in Attawan Beach.

Terry Cohn, President of Crescent Beach Association (no address given), spoke regarding his request to have the town website and golf cart permitted road map amended to show no golf cart use is allowed in Crescent Beach. The Crescent Beach Association does not allow golf carts. Mr. Cohn referred to his supporting documents including requests to two prior First Selectman requesting the corrections be made.

3. Approval of December 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by P. Vincenti to approve the December 14, 2023 meeting minutes.

**Vote:** Motion passed - 5-0-2(P. Vincenti & R. Spaziani abstained)

4. New Business

Discussion and Possible Action – Crescent Beach Association opt out of golf cart use & request town website be updated: Chairman Price asked Chief Finkelstein for concerns he may have regarding this issue. Chief Finkelstein advised board members to consult with the town attorney regarding the issue prior to any change being made.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
EAST LYME, CT  
2024 MAR 18 A 11:51  
Koussios  
TOWN CLERK

**Motion:** Motion made by S. Rebelowski, seconded by R. Hitchery to consult with the town attorney and have Crescent Beach Association golf cart use removed from the town website and map.

**Vote:** Motion passed - 7-0

Discussion and Possible Action – Attawan Beach Association use of golf carts: Chairman Price asked Chief Finkelstein for concerns he may have regarding the issue. Chief Finkelstein does not have any specific concerns. Chief Finkelstein referred to the study done by OSTA regarding the speed limits in Attawan Beach. Board members discussed concerns for parking if being used to go to the beach. A resident of Attawan who was present and spoke, stated the purpose is more for visiting neighbors and specifically in his case transporting a handicapped family member within the community. He would be using driveways to park the golf cart. Chairman Price asked Chief Finkelstein if golf cart parking complaints had been an issue in other beach communities. Chief Finkelstein has not been made aware of any parking issues. S. Rebelowski asked if the police department should be posting any signage regarding golf cart usage. Chief Finkelstein feels the specific association should handle any signage; it is not currently a town function. Chief Finkelstein advised the board members to consult with the town attorney before any changes are made.

**Motion:** Motion made by S. Rebelowski, seconded by J. Perkins to approve golf carts in Attawan Beach, update town website and map after consulting with the town attorney.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

Local Traffic Authority Form – No discussion – form will be updated.

Correspondence from East Lyme Public Schools –

Chief Finkelstein stated he does support the request, multiple surrounding towns currently have more than one School Resource Officer. Chief Finkelstein advised board members that the current budget allows for one SRO. J. Perkins suggested asking the school to cover the cost. First Selectman D. Cunningham stated he is hopeful that next year the budget will allow for additional staffing.

## 5. Lieutenant's Report

Lt. Macek reported on:

- Niantic Bay 5K
- Memorial Day Flyover
- Evidence room inspection
- Vehicle fleet update
- SRT update
- Collect audit
- Flanders traffic project
- Military drill at academy
- Dept. equipment update

Lt. Jezierski reported on:

- Accreditation assessment
- Lt. Jezierski & Chief Finkelstein are Assessors for POST
- Calea Accreditation
- Officer certification's
- Staffing

**6.** Chief's Report – Chief reviewed his monthly report, see attached marked Exhibit #1.

**7.** Communications – There were none

**8.** Chairman's Report – D. Price discussed correspondence received from a resident expressing the concerns they have for traffic in the area of the Noble Gas Station. The board members and staff discussed composing a letter to the Department of Transportation expressing concerns for this area.

**Motion:** Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by P. Vincenti to send a letter to DOT expressing traffic/safety concerns for the area of Exit 75/Noble Gas Station.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

D. Price suggested elections, he stated the board should be doing them. He would like to stay on as chair. Board members agree they should have them.

**Motion:** Motion made by S. Rebelowski, seconded by J. Perkins to hold elections.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

**Motion:** Motion made by R. Hitchery, second by P. Vincenti to nominate Dan Price as chairman.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

**Motion:** Motion made by S. Rebelowski, seconded by R. Hitchery to nominate Joe Perkins as Vice Chairman.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

Board members discussed forming sub committees and what specifically those committees should be – see below:

Awards Committee – Tony Buglione & Steve Rebelowski

Finance Committee – Dan Price & Regina Hitchery

Public Outreach Committee – Paul Vincenti & Resa Spaziani

Recruitment Committee – Dan Price, Regina Hitchery & Paul Vincenti

**9.** Public Comment – Donald Bridge Jr. stated he supports the Calea Accreditation and discussed the benefits of accreditation. As president of the beach association, he would like to hear from the commission more, he supports the Awards Committee, SRT and National Night Out. He discussed with board members the use of a camera program within the police department, meaning the use of Ring, Arlo etc. within the community. Lt. Macek stated that there would need to be an opt in option for residents. First Selectman D. Cunningham stated with vandalism concerns a camera link could be a benefit. J. Perkins recommended contacting Niantic Main Street community as a place to start. Chief Finkelstein referred to a crime prevention report the Detective Division completes twice a year and incorporating this information into that report as well as providing a link to individuals through the Axon system. No further discussion.

**10.** Commission Response – S. Rebelowski would like the following:

1. Meetings to be held in the summer months
2. Any change to schedule be requested five days in advance

**Motion:** Motion made by J. Perkins, seconded by S. Rebelowski to hold meetings in July and August.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

**Motion:** Motion made by J. Perkins, seconded by S. Rebelowski to adjourn @ 7:19 p.m.

**Vote:** Motion passed – 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Leanne Santos  
Recording Secretary

# EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – February 2024



EXHIBIT #1

## **Noteworthy Incidents/Information**

Officially joined regional SRT Team

Budget presented to Board of Selectman

CALEA Advanced Accreditation process initiated

## **Staffing**

Detective Jean Babcock retired from the East Lyme Police Department

Detective Turcotte assigned to Detective Unit

Officer on light duty after surgery

## **Administrative**

### USE OF FORCE REVIEW

February 0 Reviews (13 for year)

### PURSUIT REVIEW

February 0 (0 for year)

### TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

Assign and review of monthly Sergeant review of BWC use per policy

### Crime Analysis

- 11% increase in NIBRS crime YTD 2024 over 2023 (111 crimes)

### Training

Gathering Facts(Sex Assault)- Off Desjardins

Traffic Crash Reconstruction -Off Gries

Death Scene Protocol – Det Bergantino

Special Victims Investigator- Det's Bergantino, Turcotte and Off Hanna

Recertification – Sgt's Holt & Hallbauer

DWI – Off Caramante

**East Lyme Police Department in  
the news**

**Police: No  
criminal aspect  
to untimely  
death in East  
Lyme woods**

February 06, 2024 8:19 pm • Last Updated:  
February 06, 2024 8:29 pm

**East Lyme and  
Waterford police  
'Just Say No' to  
drug prevention  
curriculum**

February 10, 2024 4:01 pm • Last Updated:  
February 10, 2024 6:48 pm

**East Lyme's  
'crusader for the  
downtrodden'  
retires after  
three decades**

February 16, 2024 8:13 pm • Last Updated:  
February 16, 2024 8:28 pm

## **Foot chase leads to arrest of two men, one shoeless, in East Lyme**

February 19, 2024 11:43 am • Last  
Updated: February 19, 2024 6:22 pm

## **East Lyme bolsters critical incident response through regional approach**

February 23, 2024 7:39 pm • Last Updated:  
February 23, 2024 7:39 pm

## **Body discovered at Rocky Neck State Park**

March 07, 2024 11:35 am • Last Updated:  
March 07, 2024 7:16 pm



East Lyme Police Department Monthly Report

Statistical Activity Summary

**TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE- ELPD Dispatch**

Calls for Service	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2024	1234	1149											2,383

Note: Includes miscellaneous calls that may not be listed under the call analysis section

**CALLS FOR SERVICE—DETAILED**

Calls for Service - Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
911 Abandon/Hang Up	48	54											102
Alarms	32	38											70
Animal Incident	14	15											29
Assist Citizen/Complaint	78	101											179
Assist Other Agency	19	28											47
Disabled MV	12	16											28
Disturbance	12	11											23
Erratic Operation	8	6											14
Larceny	21	12											33
Lockouts	8	8											16
Parking Complaints	3	8											11
Patrol/Bank /Building Checks	109	105											214
Psych/Suicidal calls	11	12											23
Suspicious Pers/Veh/Incident	17	16											33
Untimely Death	3	3											6
Well Being Check	23	18											41
Vandalism	4	0											4

\*\*Selected areas of CFS only\*\*

