

**Town of East Lyme Connecticut
Board of Police Commissioners
July 11, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT

2024 JUL 16 A 11:25

Conrad J. ...
TOWN CLERK

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

Members Absent: Resa Spaziani

Staff Present: Chief Michael Macek, First Selectman Dan Cunningham, Recording Secretary, Leanne Santos, Animal Control Officers Robert Yuchniuk and Allison Ryan

1. **Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:**
Chairman D. Price called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Delegations:** None
3. **Approval of the June 18, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes:**
R. Hitchery noted the following corrections:
#6 (Lieutenant's Report) to read None, #7 (Chief's Report) to read Acting Chief's Report, and the spelling of fee's should read fees.
Motion: Motion made by S. Rebelowski, seconded by J. Perkins to approve the minutes as corrected.
Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor)
4. **Old Business: Follow up regarding parking signage in Oak Grove Beach:**
S. Rebelowski advised board members he drove through Oak Grove Beach, and he feels the signs need to stay in place for safety reasons and suggested adding one to two more signs.
Motion: Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by J. Perkins to leave existing signs in place and add one to two more no parking signs.
Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor)
- 5a. **New Business:**
Request for Action-Divine Wine Emporium – Chief M.Macek received an email from the office of Senator Martha Marx requesting the local traffic authority investigate the concern for street lighting in the area of 275 West Main Street. Mr. Pete Porrello, owner of Divine Wine Emporium had contacted the Senator's office regarding traffic and safety concerns due to the lack of lighting in the area. Mr. Porrello was present and addressed his concerns to staff and board members. Staff and board members discussed who would be responsible for the cost as this is a state roadway. Chief M. Macek recommended submitting Mr. Porrello's Request for Action to the State of CT with a formal request from the Board of Police Commissioners to conduct an investigation into additional lighting in the area of 275 West Main Street, Niantic, CT.
Motion: Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by S. Rebelowski to submit a request to the State of CT to conduct a study with the objective to install highway lighting in the area of 275 West Main Street, Niantic, CT.
Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor)

- 5b. Report from Animal Control Officer Yuchniuk – (Attached, Exhibit A)
Animal Control Officers R. Yuchniuk and Allison Ryan attended the meeting. Officer R. Yuchniuk gave a summary to the board members about the types of calls they respond to at any given time. Officer R. Yuchniuk introduced Percy who belongs to Officer A. Ryan and has been appointed as the official comfort/therapy dog for the East Lyme Police Department. Staff and board members both acknowledged and thanked them for the work that they do on behalf of the town.
6. Lieutenant's Report – None
7. Acting Chief's Report – The Acting Chief reviewed his monthly report - (Attached, Exhibit B)
S. Rebelowski asked Chief M. Macek what the issue is with the regional boat. Chief M. Macek advised the tilt motor is not functioning properly and the parts are due to come in next week. R. Hitchery asked Chief M. Macek if there are any new hire candidates currently. Chief M. Macek has reserved a spot at POST for January of 2025 and are hopeful to fill that spot.
8. Communications – None
9. Chairman's Report – None
10. Public Comment – None
11. Commission Response – None
12. Executive Session – for the purpose of discussing personnel issues

Motion: Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by T. Buglione to enter Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. The Executive Session included Chief M. Macek and First Selectman D. Cunningham.

Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor)

****Chairman D. Price excused himself at 7:15 p.m. and left the meeting****

****Chief M. Macek was excused at 7:25 p.m. and left the meeting****

Motion: Motion made by P. Vincenti, seconded by R. Hitchery to end the Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor) No action was taken in Executive Session

13. Adjournment:

Motion: Motion made by R. Hitchery, seconded by S. Rebelowski to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Vote: 6-0-0 (all in favor)

Respectfully submitted by,



Leanne Santos, Recording Secretary



Monthly Report June 2024

	WATERFORD	EAST LYME
CALLS FOR SERVICE	112	40
AFTER HOURS CALL OUTS	5	4
TICKETS ISSUED	1	0
WARNINGS ISSUED	1	0
DOG BITES	3	4
ANIMALS REDEEMED	11	5
ANIMALS ADOPTED	3	1
ANIMALS DOA	1	1
EUTHANIZED	0	0
ANIMALS PROCESSED TOTAL	15	7
TOTAL MONEY TAKEN IN	\$ 195.00	\$ 125.00
DONATIONS TAKEN IN	\$ 55.00	\$ 75.00

- 1) 06/04/24 Community outreach, ACO gives talk to the Waterford LEO club students, an auxiliary group of the Waterford Lions club, regarding the duties and responsibilities of Animal Control, this is a very respectful, and community committed group of high school students.
- 2) 06/05/24 ACO Ryans dog PERCY has been appointed as the official comfort / therapy dog for the East Lyme Police Department, they will be completing some training and will be available for civic events and emergency situations as needed. Much like HODGES does at Waterford PD



- 3) 06/14/24 responded to a dog bite incident where a homeowner was severely bitten by her own dog while trying to break up a dog fight, dog was a 120 pound mastiff, dog was severely injured in fight as well, owner elected to euthanize the dog immediately rather than treat its injuries, quarantine it for 10 days and then euthanize it. ACO had to capture and move the very angry dog on a catch pole, which is made of aluminum and was actually bending like a deep sea fishing pole while the dog fought against it. Thankfully with the assistance of two Police Officers, we were able to secure the dog and transport him to the vet. Because the dog was not going to complete a quarantine period, the dog had to be decapitated and his head sent to the state lab for rabies testing, thankfully, the dog tested negative for rabies.



- 4) 6/24/24 community outreach, ACO's and Percy attended the coffee with a cop event at the Waterford Library.



- 5) 6/26/24 Community outreach, ACOs and Percy were invited to the Sweet Serenity camp to give a talk about Animal Control Officers and what we do to help the animals, as is usually the case, Percy was the star of the show.



- 6) 6/29/24 In conjunction with the New London animal control, your ACO's hosted the first pasta/potato salad contest at bates woods park. The concept is similar to a chili cook-off, but participants made pasta salad and potato salad entries, using donations from the community, we purchased burgers and dogs and other supplies. Citizens could come purchase a ticket and get a burger, drink, chips and the opportunity to sample and vote on their favorite salad. We had trophies for the winners, a band came down to play music and with volunteers and the ACO's, we raised \$3100.00, which split between us, gave each agency \$1550.00 which will be applied to our non-emergency vet funds. With these funds at the vet offices, we have the opportunity to pay for medical care for the animals above and beyond what the towns are willing to pay. Sometimes an x-ray or blood test makes a huge difference. Sometimes a rabies shot gives a dog the opportunity to get out and meet people, increasing his chances for adoption.



Exhibit B

EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – June 2024

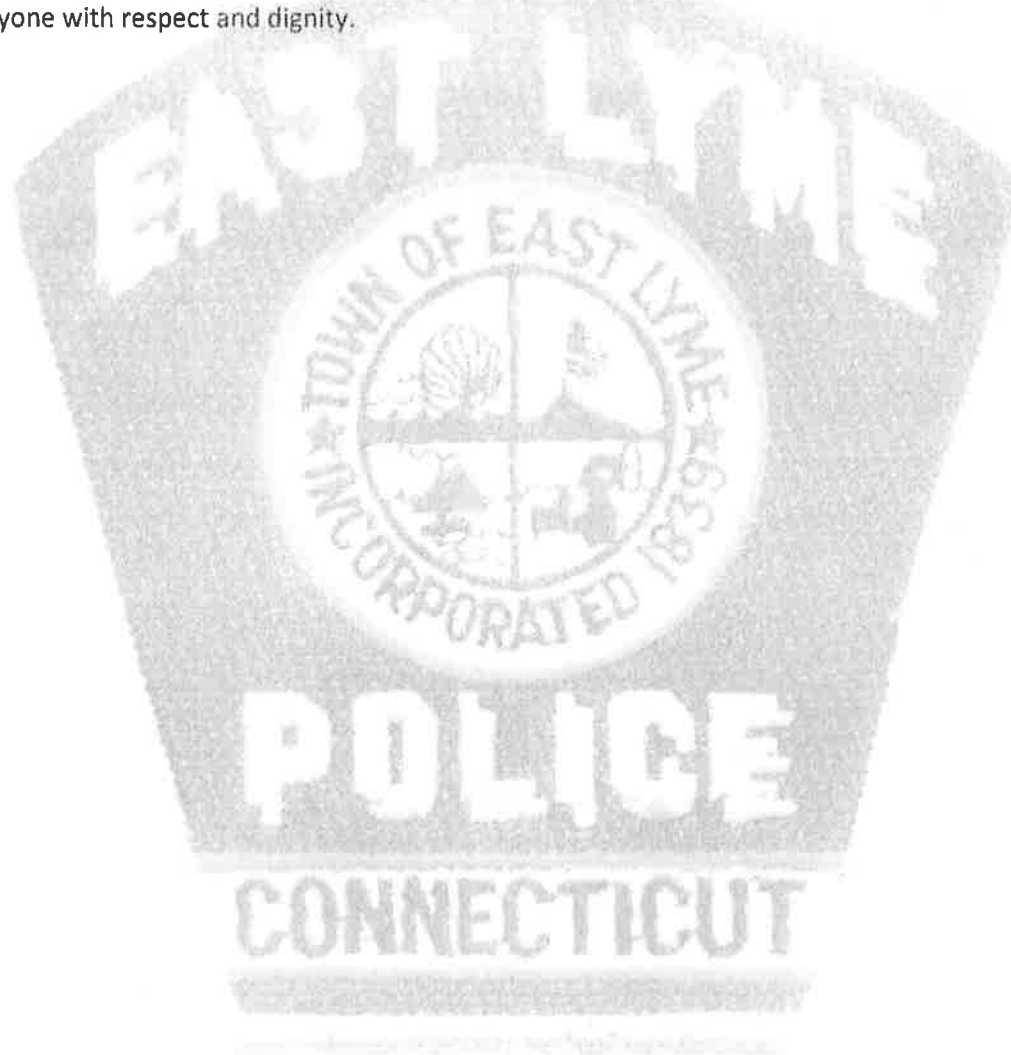


Chief of Police (*Acting*) Michael K. Macek

East Lyme Police Department

EAST POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the East Lyme Police Department is to serve the public in a professional manner. We take on the responsibility of making our community safe for all those that live, work or pass through here. We also strive to make our roads safe for motorists and pedestrians alike. It is our responsibility to work with other agencies and with the public we serve and treat everyone with respect and dignity.



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Motor Vehicle Enforcement

Motor Vehicle Enforcement - Violation Type

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Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents

- Officer Coscarelli and his wife welcomed a new baby girl
- One officer exposed to a bat while investigating a motor vehicle accident.
- July 4th was extremely busy with traffic in town and the Rock Neck State Park closing early due to reaching capacity. Officer First Class Cutillo participated in the annual Black Point July 4th parade.

Section 2: Community Events

Memorial Day Parade- Due to the weather, we did not have the flyover that I had requested. This was confirmed by the navigator assigned to the C-130. I will attempt

Celebrate East Lyme Day- Saturday, July 20th, 2024

National Night Out – Tuesday, August 6th, 2024 from 5 to 8 pm at the Flanders Elementary School.

Niantic Bay Triathlon- Sunday, August 11th, 2024

Correspondence

Due to the recent climate change our nation is facing between Law Enforcement and the public, I am very happy to say that we live and work in a great community that positively support our law enforcement professionals. The department has received countless letters, drawings, baked goods etc. to show that they truly do care and are thinking about us, we couldn't be more thankful and appreciative. There are far too many things to add to this report. In the month of June:

- A letter of appreciation was received for Officer First Class Favalora from a resident on Boston Post Road for assisting them.
- Received a large lunch from residents in black point.

Section 3: Division Reporting

Police Training—June 2024

- Amtrak Threat, Operation RailSafe attended by Officer First Class Favalora and Officer Wildman.
- Detective Bergantino and Officer Hanna attended a financial crimes conference at Mohegan Sun put on by the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators covering modern and emerging trends to include use of AI (artificial intelligence).

Resources available for use, case studies, AARP participation for scams related to the elderly population.

- Officer Hanna participated in an interactive training concerning crypto currency.
- Officer Desjardins took CIT-After the 503 training
- Officer Desjardins took a Cash App Investigations course
- Officer Levandoski took the Use of Force training.
- Monthly Firearms Training being conducted
- SRT participated in the Millstone Drill
- Chief Macek and Leanne Santos attended MUNIS training at he town hall

Animal Control Division Activity—June 2024

- Please see attached ACO monthly report for June 2024

Detective Division— June 2024

- Detective Comeau is working on completing an audit in the evidence room.
- Detective Bergantino has been working several cases to include ones that were taken over when Detective Babcock retired.
- Detective Turcotte is currently working a case where seven (7) reported stolen firearms from New Jersey were recovered and are now in the ELPD evidence room. This investigation is currently active.

Patrol Division— June 2024

- Officer Banever is nearing completion of Phase 1 of her FTO traing. She has spent that time with Officer Cutillo. She will begin Phase 2 with officer Baldino.
- Officer First Class Don Hull completed SRO (School Resource Officer) duties for the school year and has returned to patrol functions for the remainder of the summer. He will resume the SRO function
- Officers who have 10 or more years of service to the Town of East Lyme Police Department have been elevated to the Officer First Class classification. We had a total of 6 officers who met that criteria not meeting a classification of sergeant or above. The officers include O.F.C. -Comeau, Watson, Cutillo, Favalora, Langman, Hull.

Marine Division- June 2024

- The Skiff was put into the water and is at the town dock in place of the regional vessel to respond to emergencies.
- Assisted with getting the swim platform out for the Parks and Recreation department at McCook's.
- Regional boat is still out of the water. Sgt. Firmin stated that he was told the parts should be in by Monday the 15th.

Section 4: Statistical Activity Summary

As I am using a new format for this month's report

Run Date: 07/11/2024
Run Time: 14:31

East Lyme Police Department

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Monthly Statistics

06/01/2024 00:00 Thru 06/30/2024 23:59

Call Description	Current Month June 2024	Previous Month May 2024	Year To Date 1/1 - 06/30/2024	Same Month 2023 June 2023	Prior Month 2023 May 2023	Year To Date 2023 1/1 - 06/30/2023
911 ABANDON/HANG-UP/OPEN	75	54	328	154	141	647
AIRCRAFT EMERG/AIRCRAFT DOV	0	0	0	0	0	1
ALARM / SPRINKLER TESTING	13	20	95	14	16	91
ANIMAL COMP / ACO NOTIFICAT	34	24	129	28	28	120
DISPATCH ADMIN MISC	2	1	7	2	1	3
FD - FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	1	2	6	1	0	4
FD - FIRE, AUTO	1	0	2	0	1	4
FD - FIRE, BRUSH	0	0	0	0	0	1
FD - FIRE, STRUCTURE	4	0	14	0	3	5
FD - HAZ - MAT INCIDENT	0	0	1	0	0	2
FD - ILLEGAL BURN	1	0	2	0	2	4
FD - MARINE EMERG/ BOAT INC	0	0	1	0	0	0
FD - MEDICAL EMERGENCY	13	14	92	18	26	137
FD - MUTUAL - AID	0	0	1	0	0	2
FD - OUT OF SERVICE APPARAT	1	4	17	2	3	9
FD - OUTSIDE SMOKE INVEST.	0	1	1	0	0	0
FD - PROPANE - GAS LEAK INS	0	0	1	0	0	0
FD - SEARCH & RESCUE	1	0	1	0	1	3
FD - SERVICE CALL	0	0	1	1	1	4
FD - STRUCTURAL EMERGENCY	0	0	0	0	0	1
FD - UTILITY EMERGENCY	5	2	17	2	0	4
FMO - CALLOUT & INSPECTION	0	0	12	1	1	4
INFORMATIONAL CALL	35	45	172	24	37	188
MOBILE COM. VEHICLE DEPLOYM	0	0	1	0	0	0
MVA - NO INJURIES	21	19	123	20	28	106
MVA - WITH INJURIES	8	12	53	10	11	46
No Police Actual Call Type	302	260	1594	234	245	1344
OPEN BURNING & BLASTING	3	9	35	2	6	20
OTHER AGENCY CALL FOR	24	28	157	45	39	185
P - ADMIN DUTIES	17	22	134	23	22	138
P - ALARM, BURGLAR	42	51	226	39	35	244
P - ASSAULT	2	0	5	1	2	6
P - ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	22	25	149	21	51	185
P - AUTO THEFT	0	0	0	0	1	4
P - BANK ALARM / ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	1	3
P - BOATING STOP / INCIDENT	0	0	0	4	0	4
P - BOLO	20	33	151	25	21	139
P - BURGLARY	2	1	5	2	1	8
P - COMPLAINT / ASSIST CITI	89	100	547	160	132	658
P - DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	20	17	97	11	16	78
P - DISTURBANCE	23	25	95	35	22	110
P - ERRATIC OPERATION	13	12	53	11	15	68
P - ETOH PERSON	0	4	4	1	0	4
P - EVADING	3	2	13	4	5	17
P - FINGERPRINTS	13	12	108	26	18	123
P - HOMICIDE	0	0	1	0	0	0
P - K-9 USE	5	1	13	3	1	7
P - LARCENY / THEFT	18	7	75	7	11	54
P - LOCKOUT CALL	19	11	61	5	10	42
P - LOST / FOUND PROPERTY	23	12	68	9	9	48
P - MISC. POLICE CALL	11	14	51	8	18	69
P - MISSING PERSON	2	1	11	3	5	12
P - MOTOR VEHICLE STOP	146	120	700	88	98	692
P - PARKING COMP / ABANDONE	27	11	65	10	9	42
P - PATROL CHECK	155	154	783	188	198	1160
P - PSYCHIATRIC BEHAVIORAL	5	12	58	5	3	23
P - REPOSSESSION	3	4	20	2	1	17
P - ROAD JOB	52	49	288	51	33	154
P - ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	1
P - SCHOOL ACTIVITY	32	21	219	2	1	159
P - SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	14	26	118	19	28	135
P - TRAFFIC CONTROL	1	4	26	0	2	12
P - TRAINING	13	28	102	15	23	105

Run Date: 07/11/2024
Run Time: 11:31

East Lyme Police Department

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Monthly Statistics
06/01/2024 00:00 Thru 06/30/2024 23:59

Call Description	Current Month June 2024	Previous Month May 2024	Year To Date 1/1 - 06/30/2024	Same Month 2023 June 2023	Prior Month 2023 May 2023	Year To Date 2023 1/1 - 05/31/2023
P - UNTIMELY DEATH	0	3	17	2	2	9
P - VANDALISM/CRIM MISCH	5	6	24	3	1	15
P - WEAPONS COMPLIANCE	2	0	4	0	1	2
P - WELL BEING CHECK	35	19	136	32	23	143
ROAD CLOSURE; TRAFFIC ADVIS	8	6	27	23	14	62
SEWER/WATER DEPARTMENT CAL	21	18	104	8	7	76
TOWN EVENT	4	4	15	3	3	11
Report Totals:	1412	1330	7438	1406	1436	7761

Section 5: Department Updates/Administrative

- The department Facebook is being utilized to pass along information
- Ordered 3 new lockers, 3 for the male locker room (this will finally give officer Coscarelli a locker) and 1 for the female locker room.
- Wall extension for the locker room/gym will be completed (Greg Goss). TOEL maintenance will complete the final trim work, painting.
- Evidence room will be adding missing power GFI receptacles to eliminate running extension cords creating a tripping hazard.

- Evidence room exhaust fan, control knob will be added. This fan is in current operation and assists when fuming items.
- Replaced the existing antenna at the Roxbury Tower as well as cable. Utility Communication also tested battery backup
- Gym is being located to the second floor by officers in the department July 18th. That area will be painted.
- Working with Emergency Management and looking into a different platform for the Everbridge notifications. Have had several virtual meetings and demonstrations with Civic Plus. Civic Plus had to reschedule the Next Request demonstration until July 30th.
- Closed out FY 2023/2024 budget
- CIP weapon purchase in progress
- Looking at previous radio purchases and where we stand with the state. This task will be a fairly large endeavor.

GRANTS:

- Checking on a DOT grant that may have been previously submitted for
- EM tower grant. The town has been moved up on the list.

Reader's Notes

