

Town of East Lyme
Board of Police Commissioners
January 13, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

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EAST LYME, CT

2025 JAN 14 A 11:56

Carroll Hill
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: Tony Buglione, Regina Hitchery, Joe Perkins, Resa Spaziani, Stephen Rebelowski (phone in) & Paul Vincenti

Members Absent: Chairman Dan Price

Staff Present: Acting Chief Michael Macek, Lt. Dana Jezierski, Leanne Santos, Recording Secretary and First Selectman Dan Cunningham

1. Vice Chairman Perkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Delegations: East Lyme Police Officer Justin Hanna addressed Commissioners and staff regarding his concerns for retention and recruitment in relation to the East Lyme Police Department.
3. Approval of the December 12, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes and the December 20, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by P. Vincenti, seconded by T. Buglione to approve the minutes as submitted.

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

4. New Business: Discussion and Possible Action- Reinstating the Administrative Sergeant position – Chief Macek and the board discussed what the job responsibilities of this position include and what affect the position would have regarding the daily operations of the police department.

MOTION: Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by P. Vincenti in support of reinstating the position and authorized Chief Macek to move forward with the appointment of the Administrative Sergeant position.

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

5. Lieutenant's Report: Lt. Jezierski reported on the following:
 - Accreditation process
 - Status of new hire
 - Scheduling for Dispatch & Police
 - Her review of Waterford Police for Tier 2 Accreditation
 - State Reporting
6. Acting Chief's Report: See Attachment (see attached Exhibit 1, to include ACO Report) Chief Macek also advised the Commissioners that the 2025-26 Budget Review Meetings had begun.

7. Communications: There were none
8. Chairman's Report: There was none.
9. Public Comment: First Selectman D. Cunningham discussed the recent Aggressive Action Training that took place at Town Hall and thanked all involved for making it happen. It was a great experience and a valuable training session.
10. Commissioner's Report: Commissioner P. Vincenti reported that a Memorandum of Agreement is under consideration by the Town of East Lyme Police local to update language in the collective bargaining agreement to reflect the statutory role of the East Lyme Police Commission. Commissioner P. Vincenti also gave an overview of a Police Cadet meeting he recently attended and expressed appreciation for all involved in the program. (see attached Exhibit 2)
11. Executive Session: For the purpose of a status update regarding the Daigle Law Firm

MOTION: Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by T. Buglione to enter Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

VOTE: 6-0-0 (all in favor) ***First Selectman D. Cunningham was invited into Executive Session***

MOTION: Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by P. Vincenti to close and exit Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. *No votes were taken during Executive Session*

VOTE: 6-0-0 (all in favor) *S. Rebelowski left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.*

12. Discussion and possible Action related to Executive Session: None

*** Acting Chief's Report*** Chief Macek asked to revisit the 2025-26 budget covered during his Chief's report. After further discussion of the proposed promotion of an officer to Sergeant to backfill the Administrative Sergeant, Commission members expressed support for the Chief's revised plan to increase the 2025-26 budget by 3 headcount (2 officers and 1 sergeant) rather than 2 officers.

13. Adjournment:

MOTION: Made by J. Perkins, seconded by P. Vincenti to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (all in favor)

Submitted by,
Leanne Santos, Recording Secretary

Exh 1

EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – Dec. 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.

CONTENTS

Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents

Section 2: Community Outreach and Correspondence

Section 3: Division Reports

Section 4: Statistical Activity Summary

Overall Activity

Calls for Service

Calls for Service – Detailed

Motor Vehicle Activity

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Motor Vehicle Enforcement

Motor Vehicle Enforcement - Violation Type

Section 5: Department Updates

Building and Infrastructure

Administrative/LTA

Grants

Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents

- We had several large fires in town to include the Oswegatchie Hills Preserve/trail network, Exit 73 Society Road, Rocky Neck State Park, Whistle town Rd. Public safety messages had gone out about the ban on fires, grills etc. We along with the fire department had responded to numerous calls for people having fires in their yards and one where a lawn mower caught fire. There were two arrests made as a result of some of these calls. The Rocky Neck fire in under investigation by the FMO.
- Construction on Flanders rd was completed by the winter deadline of th 15th. Hey are on a break from that portion of the project.

Section 2: Community Events/Previous and Upcoming

Light Parade 12/14

Jingle Bell 5k – largest it has even been.

Correspondence

Letter from Groton Town Police- Chief Fusaro (see attached)

Section 3: Division Reporting

Police Training—December 2024

- POSTC- Valor- Improving Personnel-Safer Together Command Level- AC Macek, Lt. Jezierski
- Principles of Police Management- AC Macek
- Taser Training to include Old Lyme- Det. Bergantino
- EMT Recertification Sgt Willett
- Firearms-Ongoing multiple officers
- CIT- Officers Caramante and Gries
- Wet Lab- Officer Hanna assisted in Instructing
- K-9 Training and demo Officer Langman
- Fire Code- Det. Turcotte
- Recertification- Officer Gries
- Active Shooter – Instructor Sgt. Hallbauer
- Conducted Active Aggressor/Agitated person training at the East Lyme Town Hall and Community Center. H&S committee, AC Macek, Sgt. Hallbauer, Officer Favalora
- Chief State’s Attorney Evidence Academy- Det. Bergantino, two month course completed 12/18/24.
- POSTC- DNA for Today’s Investigations- det. Bergantino

Animal Control Division Activity—December 2024

- See attached ACO monthly report for December 2024

Detective Division— December 2024

Working on embezzlement case.
Several cases closed by arrest.
Items sent to the state lab.
Multiple search and arrest warrants submitted for review to court
Evidence court dispositions being worked on for return

Patrol Division— December 2024

Marine Division- December 2024

- N/A

Section 4: Statistical Activity Summary

Total Arrests for December= 10

Citations= 37

Total MV accidents= 26

Reportable CFS= 1147

Reportable CFS for year 2024= 15472

*See attached Monthly Stats Report

Section 5: Department Updates/Administrative/LTA

- Meeting with GA- 10 at the PD concerning larceny/embezzlement case review
- Millstone Annual Security Briefing
- Axon Fleet Kickoff meeting

- CT Police Chiefs Association Winter Meeting
- Law enforcement Council meeting then SRT Chiefs meeting to sign regional policy
- Niantic Light Parade, fastest clearing of event in my entire time here. Testament to the officers on the road working the traffic posts implementing changes as a result of after-action reports.
- CIP budget submitted and operational budgets for Police, Dispatch, and Animal Control
- Recruit Hailey Hill sworn in starts academy 01/03/25
- Cruisers sent to upfitter, Parts coming in have been sent to them.
- An update to the town webpage to reflect fingerprinting fee as well as Kathy adding signage to the lobby and printing area.

LTA Matters-New and Old Business

- 275 West Main street- still waiting on the illumination study from the state. Received another email from Martha Marx office requesting update.
- Society Road at the intersection with Riverview Road, painting has been completed.
- 26 Prospect- In discussion with the town engineer as well as the public works director.

Status- Since response of 10/08, I have not yet heard back from DOT.

Reader's Notes:

Monthly Statistics

12/01/2024 00:00 Thru 12/31/2024 23:59

Call Description	Current Month	Previous Month	Year To Date	Same Month 2023	Prior Month 2023	Year To Date 2023
	December 2024	November 2024	1/1 - 12/31/2024	December 2023	November 2023	1/1 - 12/31/2023
911 ABANDON/HANG-UP/OPEN	41	43	697	41	38	1072
AIRCRAFT EMERG/AIRCRAFT DOW	0	0	0	0	0	1
ALARM / SPRINKLER TESTING	6	21	172	13	18	173
ANIMAL COMP / ACO NOTIFICAT	12	18	275	11	13	239
DISPATCH ADMIN MISC.	1	3	17	1	3	11
FD - FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	0	1	12	3	0	15
FD - FIRE. AUTO	1	1	6	1	0	7
FD - FIRE. BRUSH	2	5	10	0	0	1
FD - FIRE. DUMPSTER	0	0	1	0	0	0
FD - FIRE. STRUCTURE	2	0	21	0	2	13
FD - HAZ - MAT INCIDENT	0	0	1	0	0	3
FD - ILLEGAL BURN	2	4	17	0	0	6
FD - MARINE EMERG/ BOAT INC	0	0	2	0	2	5
FD - MEDICAL EMERGENCY	13	20	216	22	22	290
FD - MUTUAL - AID	0	0	1	0	0	2
FD - OUT OF SERVICE APPARAT	1	1	31	3	4	26
FD - OUTSIDE SMOKE INVEST.	0	1	3	0	0	0
FD - PROPANE - GAS LEAK INS	0	0	2	1	0	2
FD - PROPANE - GAS LEAK OUT	0	0	0	0	0	1
FD - SEARCH & RESCUE	1	0	2	0	1	6
FD - SERVICE CAL.	0	0	3	0	0	9
FD - STRUCTURAL EMERGENCY	0	0	0	0	0	1
FD - UTILITY EMERGENCY	4	0	31	3	2	20
FMO - CALLOUT & INSPECTION	0	1	17	5	3	14
INFORMATIONAL CALL	19	19	346	19	26	351
MILLSTONE INCIDENT	0	0	1	0	0	0
MOBILE COM. VEHICLE DEPLOYM	0	0	1	0	0	0
MVA - NO INJURIES	18	19	266	21	30	237
MVA - WITH INJURIES	8	7	96	7	6	93
No Police Actual Call Type	284	292	3376	280	233	2973
OPEN BURNING & BLASTING	3	4	51	1	4	37
OTHER AGENCY, CALL FOR	22	24	313	33	46	460
P - ADMIN DUTIES	16	23	256	23	21	272
P - ALARM, BURGLAR	46	51	466	45	52	506
P - ASSAULT	1	0	8	1	1	12
P - ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	20	24	270	16	21	296
P - AUTO THEFT	1	0	5	0	1	5
P - BANK ALARM / ROBBERY	1	0	1	0	1	6
P - BOATING STOP / INCIDENT	0	0	0	0	0	4
P - BOLO	22	20	284	28	24	281
P - BURGLARY	0	0	9	0	0	8
P - COMPLAINT / ASSIST CITI	73	99	1171	91	115	1383
P - DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	15	9	182	31	18	199
P - DISTURBANCE	9	16	183	17	12	210
P - ERRATIC OPERATION	11	8	113	8	12	137
P - ETOH PERSON	0	0	7	0	0	8
P - EVADING	1	7	41	1	2	33
P - FINGERPRINTS	18	15	214	25	24	262
P - GUNSHOT / STAB INC	0	0	1	0	0	0
P - HOMICIDE	0	0	1	0	0	0
P - K-9 USE	3	2	29	2	1	31
P - LARCENY / THEFT	8	4	120	11	12	130
P - LOCKOUT CALL	4	11	116	5	10	78
P - LOST / FOUND PROPERTY	13	9	164	16	11	123
P - MISC. POLICE CALL	7	7	104	9	9	108
P - MISSING PERSON	0	1	21	2	1	20
P - MOTOR VEHICLE STOP	85	108	1545	156	160	1603
P - PARKING COMP / ABANDONE	11	12	145	8	5	110
P - PATROL CHECK	142	111	1717	104	113	2120
P - PSYCHIATRIC BEHAVIORAL	7	2	79	4	6	61
P - REPOSSESSION	3	6	40	3	4	36
P - ROAD JOB	39	52	677	57	61	497
P - ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	2

Monthly Statistics

12/01/2024 00:00 Thru 12/31/2024 23:59

Call Description	Current Month	Previous Month	Year To Date	Same Month 2023	Prior Month 2023	Year To Date 2023
	December 2024	November 2024	1/1 - 12/31/2024	December 2023	November 2023	1/1 - 12/31/2023
P - SCHOOL ACTIVITY	54	34	444	35	44	356
P - SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	19	24	235	21	21	260
P - TRAFFIC CONTROL	2	7	63	4	3	25
P - TRAINING	21	14	173	16	13	202
P - UNTIMELY DEATH	1	0	23	1	1	16
P - VANDALISM / CRIM. MISCH	1	1	35	5	1	32
P - WEAPONS COMPLIANCE	0	1	7	0	0	3
P - WELL BEING CHECK	28	23	265	17	25	289
ROAD CLOSURE/ TRAFFIC ADVIS	3	0	46	13	2	110
SEWER/WATER DEPARTMENT CAI	20	18	200	13	10	156
TOWN EVENT	2	2	26	2	2	23
Report Totals:	1147	1205	15472	1255	1271	16071



TOWN OF GROTON

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Louis J. Fusaro, Jr.
Chief of Police
lfusaro@groton-ct.gov

68 Groton Long Point Road, Groton, Connecticut 06340
Telephone (860) 441-6712 Fax (860) 441-6726
www.groton-ct.gov

December 5, 2024

Acting Chief Michael Macek
East Lyme Police Department
277 West Main Street
Niantic, CT 06357

Dear Acting Chief Macek:

I am writing you today to express my sincere appreciation to you and your department for supporting our request for Mutual Aid on Saturday, November 30, 2024.

Officer Matt Haynes provided invaluable assistance during the annual *Mystic Lighted Boat Parade*. This event can bring between 20-30,000 visitors to Mystic, from around the northeast, to watch festively-decorated boats navigate the Mystic River and to visit the many attractions of Downtown Mystic.

Thankfully, this event was a great success and there were no significant law enforcement issues. This is due in large part to the robust police presence through the support of your department and several others.

Again, please accept my thanks for the support of Officer Haynes!

Sincerely,

Louis J. Fusaro, Jr.
CHIEF OF POLICE

“Submarine Capital of the World”



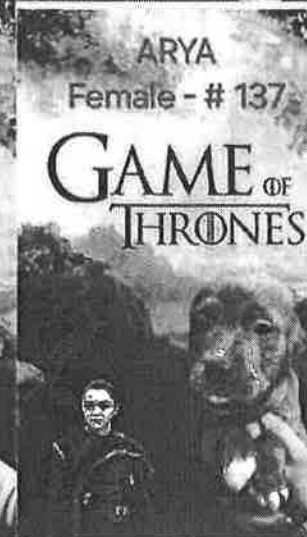
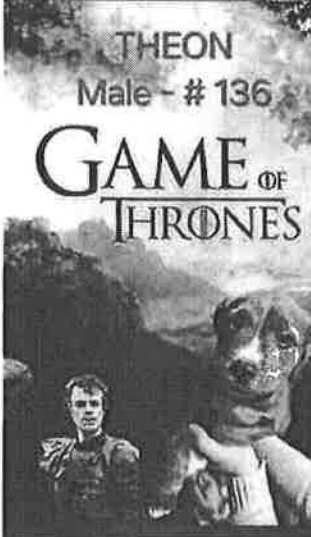
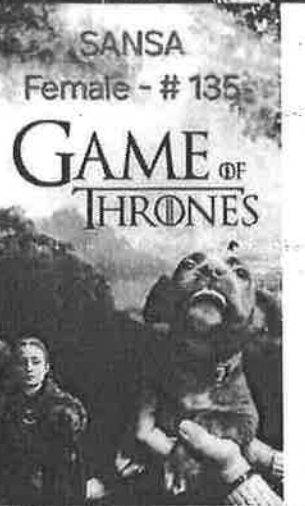
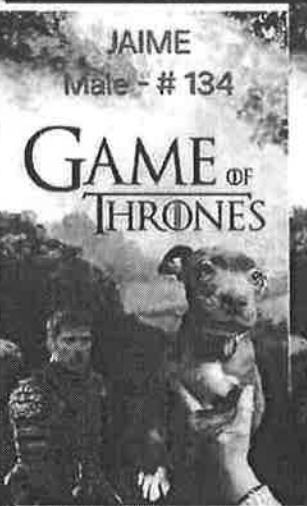
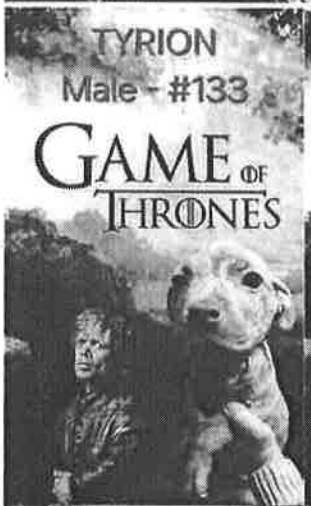
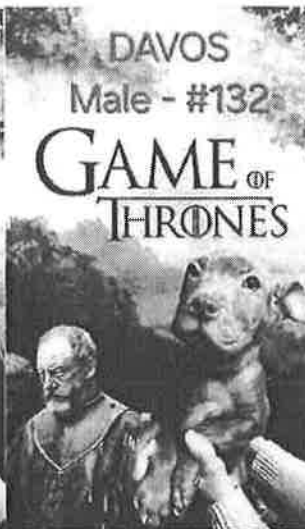
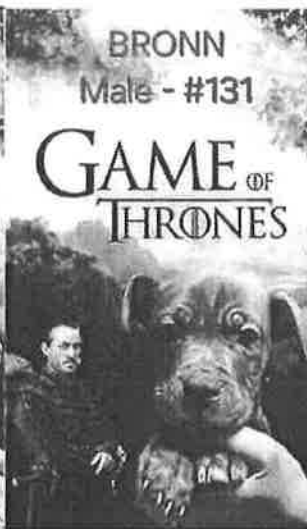
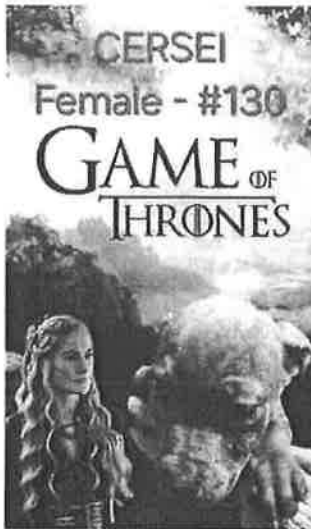
Monthly Report December 2024

	WATERFORD	EAST LYME
CALLS FOR SERVICE	51	32
AFTER HOURS CALL OUTS	0	1
TICKETS ISSUED	0	0
WARNINGS ISSUED	1	0
DOG BITES	2	0
ANIMALS REDEEMED	4	2
ANIMALS ADOPTED	1	5
ANIMALS DOA	3	0
EUTHANIZED	0	0
ANIMALS PROCESSED TOTAL	8	7
TOTAL MONEY TAKEN IN	\$ 70.00	\$ 400.00
DONATIONS TAKEN IN	\$ 5.00	\$ 400.00

- 1) Busy month for AACO Ryan and Percy, he attended a Santa event in mystic village on 12/7. He did the shop with a cop event on 12/14. He marched in the east lyme light parade on 12/14.
- 2) 12/17/24 Animal control responded to a deceased cat in a box, washed up on the shoreline of the river at the end of scotch cap road. The cat was wrapped in a bag and taped up in the box with the name Midnight written on the box. It appears, someone tried to give the cat a burial at sea.
- 3) 12/18/24 Animal control assisted a citizen who was entering a rehab facility. Watching his dog until he is released. This is a service we offer our citizens at no cost to them.
- 4) 12/21/24 Animal control officers from Waterford, East Lyme and New London held a pet photos with Santa fundraising event, raising \$700.00 that will be split between the towns for our non-emergency vet funds. We use these funds to get vet services that the towns would not normally pay for, giving our animals a greater chance at success.



- 5) 12/28/24 A citizen signed over nine (9) pit bull mix puppies when they could not care for them properly. We are getting them vetted and will find them homes. We are going with a game of thrones theme for their names. Being creative like this helps the animals get adopted much faster.



Report to the East Lyme Police Commission

Subject: East Lyme Police Cadets Meeting – Wednesday, January 8

Commissioner's Report:

On Wednesday, January 8, I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the East Lyme Police Cadets, a program that has been an integral part of this department since its inception in 2001. Over the years, the cadet program has cultivated many future police officers, including notable graduates like Lindsey Cutillo, and has prepared young individuals to serve in law enforcement agencies across the region.

During my visit, I saw Detective Turcotte and Sergeant Hallbauer as they led the cadets through an exceptionally well-organized and meaningful training session. The focus of this session was on handling an interpersonal conflict, a scenario designed to immerse the cadets in realistic law enforcement challenges.

Detective Turcotte and Sergeant Hallbauer guided the cadets step-by-step through the scenario, emphasizing policy and procedural adherence throughout the exercise. The training also incorporated essential components such as:

- Proper completion of documentation.
- Identification of resources available to victims.
- Strategies to keep officer and civilian safety at every stage.

The attention to detail and the methodical approach shown by Detective Turcotte and Sergeant Hallbauer gave a powerful example to the cadets. Their ability to model professionalism, leadership, and teamwork in a high-pressure situation was inspiring, and it was clear that the cadets were engaged, learning, and growing as individuals.

It was particularly impressive to see how this program develops not only technical skills but also critical decision-making abilities, responsibility, and a sense of teamwork. Furthermore, I want to recognize the East Lyme Police Cadets for their dedication to the community. These young individuals consistently contribute their skills and time, taking part in community service activities and events that make East Lyme a better place to live. Their commitment reflects the values of this program and proves the positive impact of investing in our youth.

As a commissioner, I was proud to witness the dedication and volunteerism of our department members in mentoring the next generation. Programs like the East

Lyme Police Cadets are a testament to the department's commitment to community engagement and leadership development. I commend Detective Turcotte, Sergeant Hallbauer, the cadets, and all those involved in ensuring the success of this program.

I encourage all of us to seek out ways to better support this program, attend their fundraisers and bolster their initiatives. This program is a worthy cause that reflects positively on the department and reinforces our mission to foster trust, collaboration, and excellence within our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Vincenti
East Lyme Police Commission