

Town of East Lyme
Board of Police Commissioners
March 10, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

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EAST LYME, CT

2025 MAR 12 A 11:06

Cassandra Hill
TOWN CLERK

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

Members Absent: Stephen Rebelowski

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

1. Chairman Price called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

***MOTION:** Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by T. Buglione to approve the amended agenda for the March 10, 2025, Regular Meeting.

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

2. Delegations: There were none.

3. Approval of the February 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Made by J. Perkins, seconded by P. Vincenti to approve the minutes.

VOTE: 5-0-1 (T. Buglione, abstained)

4. Old Business:

a. Rte. 156 Illumination-275 W. Main St. – Chief Macek advised board members that the State of CTDOT study is complete and illumination is not warranted based on their findings. Chairman D. Price requested Chief Macek to contact Public Works to obtain an estimate for the installation by the town for lighting in the area of 275 W. Main St.

5. New Business:

a. Internal Affairs Investigation report: Chief M. Finkelstein response to police department call for service, 8/16/24 – Chairman D. Price advised all attendees that the board has received this report, however, the board is waiting for the results of remaining internal affairs investigations by Daigle Law Firm before any action will be taken.

MOTION: Made by P. Vincenti, seconded by T. Buglione that the East Lyme Police Commission direct the East Lyme Police Department to develop official documentation outlining the policies and procedures for officers placed on

administrative leave. This documentation shall clearly specify

1. requirements for officers on administrative leave
2. an acknowledgment of that requirement
3. implementation and oversight

I further moved that this commission include this matter as an agenda item for discussion and action at the next scheduled meeting.

VOTE: 1-5 (motion not passed)

First Selectman D. Cunningham advised board members he has instructed HR Director S. Konakowitz to coordinate a review between Town Hall and the Police Department that will result in proposed changes for the Town as well as Police Department to be in line with the Internal Investigation report's recommendations.

6. Lieutenant's Report: Lt. Jeziarski reported on the following:

- * Update on new hire
- * Accreditation
- * FOI requests
- * Scheduling/Training
- * File review

7. Acting Chief's Report: Attached, exhibit 1 (includes ACO Monthly Report)

8. Ex-Officio Report: First Selectman D. Cunningham reported on the following:

- * Budget
- * Capital Improvement Plan Committee
- * Radio Communications

9. Commissioner Report(s): Chairman D. Price thanked the police department and officers for their continued hard work throughout the course of the internal affairs investigations.

10. Public Comment: Officer J. Hanna addressed the board member regarding the radio issues the department continues to experience.

11. Commissioners' Response: There were none.

12. Executive Session: For the purpose of discussing impending claim/lawsuit:

MOTION: Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by P. Vincenti to enter Executive Session at 7:11 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 R. Spaziani to close and exit Executive Session.

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

No votes were taken during Executive Session

13. Adjournment:

MOTION: Made by R. Hitchery, seconded by J. Perkins to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.

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

Submitted by,

Leanne Santos, Recording Secretary

EAST LYME POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Monthly Report – Feb. 2025

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

East Lyme Police Department

EXH #1

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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Administrative/LTA

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Section 1: Noteworthy Incidents

- Construction on Flanders Rd. has picked back up. There was a week of overnight road closures, 02/24-02/28. This was coordinated with GM2, Manafort, ELPD and ELFD.
- Town vehicle stolen from the Town Hall parking lot. Located in Old Saybrook and towed back to East Lyme. The vehicle is an old police Ford Taurus and has been deemed a total loss via the insurance company.
- East Lyme Police Union held a meeting to conduct elections

Section 2: Community Events/Previous and Upcoming

None in the month of February

Correspondence

Email from CT DOT, Division of Traffic Engineering, 275 West Main Street (also listed under LTA section)

Email from Christopher Olsen, Director of Safety and Security, East Lyme Public Schools

Certificate from CT-NIBRS for 2024 reporting (for the ELPD)

Antonino Auto Group, Marc Antonino

Section 3: Division Reporting

Police Training—February 2025

- See Lieutenant's Report for Training

Animal Control Division Activity—February 2025

- See attached ACO monthly report for February 2025

Detective Division— February 2025

Items sent to the state lab for destruction.
Cyber Crimes Investigations at UNH-Det. Bergantino

Marine Division- February 2025

- N/A

Section 4: Statistical Activity Summary

Total Arrests for December= 11

Citations= 47

Total MV accidents= 21

Reportable CFS= 1135

*See attached Monthly Stats Report

Section 5: Department Updates/Administrative/LTA

- 2/3 Board of Selectman budget meeting
- Police Commission meeting
- Firearms training/qualifications with new weapons completed
- Zoom meeting with Tyler Payment Systems (incorporated into MUNIS) Leanne can speak about recent discussions with finance on that).
- Received 2024 NIBRS compliance certificate
- Department Head Meeting- Subj. State of the town-wide Budget
- Axon Fleet 3 in-car camera Installations (remove fleet 2 replace with fleet 3)
- Law enforcement Council meeting
- SRT Chief's Meeting
- Two new cruisers brought to Strobes N' More upfitting – Still a few items, lettering, radio, and computer transfer before being road ready
- Copart picked up recovered stolen GMC
- Met with Capital Improvement Committee to go over PDCIP
- Recruit Hailey Hill is doing well at the academy
- Car 110 was surveyed by the adjuster, sent to Dawley Automotive for repair, waiting on supplemental report for finalization. Authorized CIRMA to deal with the shop directly for payment.
- Coordinated upcoming events in town

LTA Matters-New and Old Business

- 275 West Main Street-

Received email from CTDOT, Division of Engineering. They take several factors into consideration during their investigation. There was not enough supporting data for the area to warrant additional lighting at the state's cost. They did however state that the town could install lighting at the town's expense after going through the encroachment permit process.

I have responded back to Senator Martha Marx's office on this issue.

- 26 Prospect-

In discussion with the town engineer as well as the public works director. This issue has gone back and forth. I feel that if curbing is acceptable, it could be designed to allow storm runoff to reach the catch basin while removing the ability to park in the location.

Reader's Notes:

Monthly Statistics

02/01/2025 00:00 Thru 02/28/2025 23:59

Call Description	Current Month February 2025	Previous Month January 2025	Year To Date 1/1 - 02/28/2025	Same Month 2024 February 2024	Prior Month 2024 January 2024	Year To Date 2024 1/1 - 02/29/2024
911 ABANDON/HANG-UP/OPEN	27	28	55	54	48	102
ALARM / SPRINKLER TESTING	19	16	35	15	12	27
ANIMAL COMP / ACO NOTIFICAT	14	16	30	15	14	29
DISPATCH ADMIN MISC.	1	4	6	1	1	2
FD - FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	0	1	1	0	1	1
FD - FIRE, AUTO	0	2	2	0	0	0
FD - FIRE, BRUSH	0	0	0	0	0	0
FD - FIRE, STRUCTURE	2	1	3	1	3	4
FD - ILLEGAL BURN	0	0	0	0	1	1
FD - MEDICAL EMERGENCY	20	16	36	18	20	38
FD - MUTUAL - AID	0	0	0	1	0	1
FD - OUT OF SERVICE APPARAT	0	1	1	3	4	7
FD - OUTSIDE SMOKE INVEST.	0	1	1	0	0	0
FD - PROPANE - GAS LEAK INS	0	0	0	0	0	0
FD - SEARCH & RESCUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
FD - SERVICE CALL	2	0	2	0	0	0
FD - UTILITY EMERGENCY	1	1	2	0	5	5
FMO - CALLOUT & INSPECTION	1	0	1	0	5	5
INFORMATIONAL CALL	20	20	40	17	22	39
MVA - NO INJURIES	16	22	38	21	24	45
MVA - WITH INJURIES	5	4	9	15	5	20
No Police Actual Call Type	242	277	519	251	295	546
OPEN BURNING & BLASTING	1	0	1	6	7	13
OTHER AGENCY, CALL FOR	25	22	47	18	37	55
P - ADMIN DUTIES	29	33	62	21	20	41
P - ALARM, BURGLAR	28	43	71	38	32	70
P - ASSAULT	4	0	4	1	1	2
P - ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	12	7	19	28	19	47
P - AUTO THEFT	1	0	1	0	0	0
P - BANK ALARM / ROBBERY	1	0	1	0	0	0
P - BOLO	19	32	51	24	22	46
P - BURGLARY	0	2	2	0	2	2
P - COMPLAINT / ASSIST CITI	81	80	161	102	78	180
P - DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	14	6	20	16	12	28
P - DISTURBANCE	11	12	23	11	12	23
P - ERRATIC OPERATION	5	11	16	6	8	14
P - EVADING	4	1	5	2	3	5
P - FINGERPRINTS	22	26	48	20	25	45
P - K-9 USE	1	2	3	1	2	3
P - LARCENY / THEFT	2	4	6	12	21	33
P - LOCKOUT CALL	5	7	12	8	8	16
P - LOST / FOUND PROPERTY	6	5	11	8	6	14
P - MISC. POLICE CALL	6	4	10	2	13	15
P - MISSING PERSON	1	1	2	1	3	4
P - MOTOR VEHICLE STOP	85	79	164	119	117	236
P - PARKING COMP / ABANDONE	17	8	25	8	3	11
P - PATROL CHECK	224	323	547	105	109	214
P - PSYCHIATRIC BEHAVIORAL	2	5	7	12	11	23
P - REPOSSESSION	2	2	4	3	5	8
P - ROAD JOB	36	18	54	37	48	85
P - SCHOOL ACTIVITY	56	41	97	51	46	97
P - SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	9	14	23	16	17	33
P - TRAFFIC CONTROL	5	3	8	5	8	13
P - TRAINING	10	10	20	18	20	38
P - UNTIMELY DEATH	2	2	4	3	3	6
P - VANDALISM / CRIM. MISCH	1	2	3	0	4	4
P - WEAPONS COMPLIANCE	1	0	1	0	1	1
P - WELL BEING CHECK	25	20	45	18	23	41
ROAD CLOSURE/ TRAFFIC ADVIS	0	1	1	3	7	10
SEWER/WATER DEPARTMENT CAI	11	23	34	14	20	34
TOWN EVENT	1	0	1	1	1	2
Report Totals:	1135	1259	2394	1150	1234	2384



Monthly Report February 2025

	WATERFORD	EAST LYME
CALLS FOR SERVICE	66	29
AFTER HOURS CALL OUTS	1	0
TICKETS ISSUED	0	0
WARNINGS ISSUED	0	0
DOG BITES	3	0
ANIMALS REDEEMED	7	0
ANIMALS ADOPTED	2	0
ANIMALS DOA	0	0
EUTHANIZED	1 ill dog	0
ANIMALS PROCESSED TOTAL	10	0
TOTAL MONEY TAKEN IN	\$445.00	\$0.00
DONATIONS TAKEN IN	\$75.00	\$0.00

- 1) 2/4/25 dog COMET, missing for 8 days follows a citizen into the lobby of the Waterford PD, dog is amazingly in good shape, he has an injury on his leg from being struck by a car, but otherwise unhurt. This is impressive as he spent 8 nights outside in the area of Stanger field, an area that is home to numerous coyotes. Dog reunited with his family amongst many tears of joy.



- 2) 2/6/25 citizen of East Lyme makes a complaint to the EL first selectman, believing Animal Control is giving special consideration for a town employee by not issuing an infraction for a roaming dog offense. This citizen was not present when the incident occurred, the dog had been on a leash held by a juvenile, the dog pulled the leash out of their hands and no one was bitten or injured in the incident. The dog owner was spoken to and given a verbal warning, since 2010 it has been part of our written policies to always try to handle matters at the lowest level of enforcement, to try education over enforcement. Typically the first offense is a verbal warning, second offense of a written warning and the third offense, if the owners have not learned how to control their dog, may result in an infraction. I feel this is reasonable and fair, endears good will with the community while correcting questionable behavior.

- 3) 2/12/25 citizen finds a roaming senior Chihuahua, after advertising dog on Facebook and in the newspaper, no one claims dog. Dog is deaf and partially blind, has very bad teeth and numerous tumors and dog is incontinent. We were hoping to bring the dog to the vet and find a hospice home for the dog to live out its life in comfort, however, the vet examination determined that the dog's tumors were cancerous. With all the issues in addition to the cancer diagnosis, the decision was made to humanely euthanize the dog to end her suffering. As always, our ACO's went to the vet with the dog to provide some small measure of comfort to her as she passed from this life. This is the worst part of our job, but one we take great pride in.



- 4) Spring is fast approaching, we are receiving more calls about wildlife, raccoons out in the day time are being called in as possible rabies concerns, most of these are just hungry animals coming out of hibernation and looking for breakfast.

