



# EAST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES

471 NORTH HIGH STREET • EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06512

Mayor Joseph A. Carfora



Honorable Board of  
Police Commissioners

HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2023 AT 7:00 PM  
471 NORTH HIGH STREET  
EAST HAVEN, CT

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairman Dominic Balletto (presiding), Vice Chairman Joseph DiSilvestro, Commissioner Paul Carbo (via telephone), Commissioner Dianne Romans, Commissioner Barbara Barbuio

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Edward Lennon, Deputy Chief Patrick Tracy, Clerk Marsha Maldonado

Chairman Balletto called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call – Clerk Maldonado; quorum obtained
4. Announcement(s)
5. Consider and act upon the approval of the regular Monthly Meeting minutes of April 25, 2023  
Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to accept and approve the regular Monthly Meeting minutes of April 25, 2023, as received; seconded by Commissioner Romans. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Consider and act upon the approval of the Monthly Reports (May 2023)  
Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to accept and approve the monthly reports as received; seconded by Commissioners Romans and Barbuio. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Consider and act upon Committee Reports & Recommendations  
Chairman Balletto questioned the procedure of how correspondence received is disseminated to the Board and/or subcommittees. Discussion ensued. Chairman Balletto would like all correspondence addressed to the Board and/or subcommittees to go directly to the Chairman for formal referral to the subcommittee.
8. Public Comment

9. Correspondence Received/Sent

- a. Susan Dowd (17 Cold Spring Street), received via email dated May 4, 2023 – In reference to her original correspondence/request from the February 2023 meeting, if speed bumps were not an option, she is now proposing painted crosswalks to make the area safer.

This was previously deferred to the Traffic & Public Safety Committee for review. Upon surveying the street, Vice Chairman DiSilvestro does not believe a crosswalk is possible without installing a sidewalk. Chief Lennon agreed there is no sidewalk and advised that there is already a crosswalk approximately 50 yards away so a second crosswalk would be duplicative.

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion that the Board take no action; seconded by Commissioner Barbuito. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Lorena Venegas (73 George Street), received via email dated May 9, 2023 – Requests the following:
- i. The left turn signal at the traffic light located on the corner of Dodge and Hemingway Avenue, heading north towards Main Street, be adjusted to allow more time for vehicles to turn in the left direction from Hemingway on to Dodge; currently, barely 2 to 3 cars, or 1 truck can make the turn.
  - ii. Traffic calming measures on the stretches of Coe Avenue to prevent speeding activity.

As Route 142 is a state route, Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to send a letter to CTDOT requesting a review of both these areas; seconded by Commissioner Romans. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Councilwoman Samantha Parlato, received via email dated May 18, 2023 – Request for a traffic signal at the intersection of Thompson Avenue and Tyler Street.

Chairman Balletto referred this to the Traffic & Public Safety Committee for review.

- d. Carmelo Lazu (Joan Court), received via email dated June 10, 2023 – Request for speed bump or “Children at Play” signage to address speeding.

Commissioner Carbo informed the Board that Joan Court is a cul-de-sac off North High Street, Maple Street and Carol Drive. Chief Lennon mentioned that the Traffic Unit Supervisor did reach out to the resident about the speeding concerns, and possible traffic enforcement on Carol and/or Nicholas Drive. Chairman Balletto would like a report for next meeting.

- e. State Representative Joseph Zullo on behalf of Courtney Magnotti (82 Kimberly Avenue), received via email dated June 12, 2023 – Request for barriers in front of her property to prevent damage from motor vehicle accidents.

Chief Lennon noted that the intersection of Forbes and Kimberly is a state route and is one of our high-volume traffic incidents, and that the state has been reluctant to remediate this intersection due to the potential for backups onto Route 1. Ms. Magnotti is requesting that some type of barrier be installed in front of her property similar to those on the opposite end of Kimberly Avenue/High Street. Chief Lennon recommends deferring to give us an opportunity to consider possible solutions.

Chairman Balletto referred this to the Traffic & Public Safety Committee for review.

- f. Michelle Benivegna, Director of Administration & Management (Mayor’s Office), received via email June 12, 2023 – New Business, 12.b.

- g. Noreen Clough, President, East Haven Fall Festival, dated/received via hand-delivery April 6, 2023 – New Business, 12.c.

10. Department Updates (Chief Lennon)

a. Personnel Matters/Injured Employees

- i. One (1) sworn personnel on light duty.
- ii. Three (3) police officer vacancies; all applicants have been eliminated for serious indiscretions except for one (1) candidate who withdrew to potentially go to another agency; a written exam is scheduled in the coming weeks.

b. Overtime

Higher than this time last fiscal year due to vacancies, and hospital watches and risk protection orders are also consuming a lot of overtime.

c. Awards & Commendations

d. Noteworthy News

- i. Detective Jonathan Trinh is our nomination for this year's Joseph Buonome Memorial Public Safety Award to be presented at the East Haven Rotary Club's Annual Installation of Officers Dinner on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at The Woodwinds in Branford. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please see Marsha Maldonado for tickets.
- ii. Along with Mayor Carfora and other Town officials, Chief Lennon had the privilege of attending a formal ceremony in New York for the Building Homes for Heroes Program. A veteran from Afghanistan will be receiving the 343<sup>rd</sup> home in East Haven the same weekend as the Fall Festival in September.
- iii. EHPAL National Night Out is scheduled for the first week of August and will take place at the Town Beach, same as last year.
- iv. Chief Lennon will be attending the formal hearing for our 4-year national accreditation at the CALEA Conference the last week in July.
- v. Several personnel participated in the 2023 Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 2.

11. Old Business

*A quick commentary before moving on to 'New Business' – Chairman Balletto would like to thank the men and woman of the Department that have had a very difficult last several weeks putting in some major time and effort into protecting the community and dealing with what has been happening in Town. On behalf of the Board, all your hard work is duly noted and thank you to everyone, including the Chief and Deputy Chief.*

12. New Business

a. Discussion and approval of revised policy 801.3 (Records Retention)

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to approve revised policy 801.3 (Records Retention) with an effective date of July 1, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Barbuito. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Discussion and approval of the request from Michelle Benivegna, Director of Administration & Management (Mayor's Office) to close River Street on Sunday, August 6, 2023, beginning at 3:00 PM for the Town's annual Italian Festival which will run from 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Commissioners Romans and Barbuio. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Discussion and approval of Fall Festival Road Closure Request

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to approve the request for the closure of Hemingway Avenue between Main Street and Edward Street on Friday, September 8, Saturday, September 9 and Sunday, September 10, 2023, and to make the application to the State to approve the closures on these dates and for the times deemed necessary by the Chief and the Fall Festival Planning Committee; seconded by Commissioner Romans. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Discussion and approval of Towing Application submitted by One Source Towing & Repair

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to approve the applications for both standard and heavy-duty towing effective July 1, 2023; seconded by Commissioner Barbuio. All in favor. No one opposed or abstained. Motion carried unanimously.

- e. Annual Closer to Free Bicycling Fundraiser – Sunday, September 9, 2023

Formal acknowledgement and endorsement of the Annual Closer to Free Bicycling Fundraiser to benefit Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale Cancer Center.

### 13. Adjournment

Vice Chairman DiSilvestro made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Romans. All in favor. Chairman Balletto adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha M. Maldonado  
Clerk to the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners