



TOWN OF ENFIELD

Minutes

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 4:00pm, Scitico Room of Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm by Chairman Despard.

1. Roll Call –Councilors Gina Cekala, Matt Despard and Lori Unghire; Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Donald Nunes, Steve Bielenda, and Chief Fox, Sgt. Horan and Sgt. Meier.

Others in Attendance: Mayor Cressotti, Councilors Hopkins and Nelson; Zach Zannoni and Kelly Jackson.

2. Update Items - Aggressive Dogs

- The Town has an ordinance (Chapter 10) concerning Aggressive Dogs. The Committee had previously referred the matter to the Town Attorney for review of the chapter as it relates to CGS 22-358; 22-359; and 22-363 to ensure compliance with the ordinance. Attorney Cerrato spoke with ACO Yoho who stated it could all be deleted and the section about animal waste pick-up could be moved to a different section. Approved 3-0.

2. Update Items - Panhandling

- The Committee referred possible signage to deter panhandling. The Committee also discussed the viability of the current panhandling ordinance. Councilor Cekala suggested the addition of the Social Services phone number. Councilor Despard liked the signs as a deterrent as opposed to opening up the ordinance. Councilor Unghire agreed that the signs could be a diversion for some people. Donald Nunes will create an Enfield specific sign design and return it to the sub-committee.

2. Update Items - Traffic Calming Patterns & Truck Traffic Issues

- Chief Fox provided an overview of how a traffic calming policy would work in terms of certain areas such as Stafford at Rt. 190, which does have signage and the turning restriction at Elm & North. Sgt. Meier cautioned about using signage such as “No Thru Trucks,” is unrealistic and not approved by DOT – for example, if the trucks originate or terminate in Enfield, or have stops in Enfield (oil delivery, Amazon, Fedex). Sgt. Meier said there could be weight restrictions per certain roadways but EPD does not have training to enforce. The Town Manager noted that the DMV Enforcement division has been in town frequently. The traffic calming report was distributed. If adopted, Chief Fox stated that there would be funding implications for road design and professional services. Donald Nunes noted that when there are new businesses that are traffic generators, the permitting approval process includes guide signs (this way to Rt 91) that are helpful. This item will remain on the agenda. The Police also noted that there are over 68 requests for traffic monitoring. The list was distributed to the committee members. Sgt. Meier noted locations are added frequently, but rarely does a location come off the list.



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3. New Business - Civilian Review Board

The Town Manager noted that the matter of a Civilian Review Board was referred to the Public Safety Committee from the November 14, 2022 Town Council meeting. Chief Fox provided a summary of the Dept. processes in place for Discipline including statistics on accreditation, coaching and counseling, suspensions and discipline and the 11 attachment supporting these items. Sgt. Eric Horan who serves as the Police Union President also commented that the process in place works and is substantive.

The committee consensus was that a Civilian Review Board is not necessary in Enfield at this time.

Councilor Gina Cekala suggested we go back to Community Conversations to allow members of the public to have a forum and meet various employees.

3. New Business - Franklin St. Multi-Use Path

Ellen gave an overview of the project which is set to begin in the summer. It is one example of the Town's efforts to improve pedestrian and bike safety, similar to the Town Farm path.

4. Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be on February 8th at 1pm. The committee will plan on holding meetings on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.