

WOODBRIIDGE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WOODBRIIDGE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

July 19, 2021

Via ZOOM Platform (In accordance with SB 1202, this meeting was held by electronic transmission.)

Live Streamed – WGATV, Channel 79

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/UFKMdrKnd-A>

The Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners/Woodbridge Traffic Authority took place Monday, July 19, 2021 at 6:15 p.m., via ZOOM platform.

- *Chairman Berke called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.*

Commissioners and Liaisons Present-

Chairman Robert Berke

Commissioner Andrew Esposito, Jr.

Commissioner Deborah Fried

Commissioner Deborah Desir

Commissioner Michael Shanbrom

Police Administration Present-

Chief Frank P. Cappiello

Administrative Assistant Janice Innocenzi

Liaisons Present-

Joseph Crisco, Board of Selectmen

Ellen Scalettar, Board of Finance

ELECTION of OFFICERS and SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- **Introduction:**

Chairman Berke welcomed new Commissioner Michael Shanbrom.

- **Nominations and Voting to Elect Officers for the New Term:**

Commissioner **Robert Berke** remains **Chairman**.

Commissioner Desir *nominated* Commissioner Esposito for Vice Chairman; nomination was *seconded* by Commissioner Fried (*all in favor*); *motion carries*. **Andrew Esposito, Jr. will serve as the new Vice Chairman.**

- **Appointments to Serve on the Personnel and Budget Subcommittees:**

Budget Subcommittee: Commissioner Esposito and Commissioner Shanbrom were appointed to serve on the Budget subcommittee.

Personnel Subcommittee: Commissioner Fried and Commissioner Desir were appointed to serve on the Personnel subcommittee.

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

- B.O.P.C. Regular Meeting – June 21, 2021:

On a motion made by Commissioner Fried and seconded by Commissioner Esposito, the Board voted to approve the amended minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners/Woodbridge Traffic Authority held on June 21, 2021.

- *Votes in Favor: Esposito / Berke / Desir / Fried*
- *Abstained: Shanbrom*
- *Motion carries.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There were no Public Comments.

REVIEW of REPORTS:

- Financial Report: Chief Cappiello reported that the Finance Department is working on closing out fiscal year FY20/21. We should finish out the last fiscal year remaining within budget. We are currently only a couple of weeks into the new fiscal year, so most of the expenditures thus far are contractual, related stipends and mandatory operational requirements, such as annual dues, contract renewals, encumbrances and running purchase orders.

The Board voted unanimously (Fried/Esposito) to accept the Financial Report.

- **Criminal Activity Report:**

- Homicide Investigation: The investigation by our Detectives, in conjunction with State Police Central District Major Crime, into the shooting death that occurred on June 7th at the Pease Road playground continues to be very active. On July 1st, they arrested a 24-year-old male connected with the incident and charged him with felony murder, murder, robbery 1st degree and larceny 2nd degree. More recently and working closely with New Haven Police and the State Police Swat Team, they were able to execute additional search warrants, and on July 11th, they also arrested a second subject who was involved in this crime for larceny 2nd. All investigators have been working tirelessly and continue to make great progress.
- Bomb Threat: On June 22nd there was a bomb threat at the JCC. The caller referenced a “bomb” being on the premises, along with some racial and anti-Semitic rhetoric. The building, fitness center and day camp were all evacuated and searched by our personnel with the assistance of the Fire Department, K9s and personnel from the Connecticut State Police, New Haven Police, and Yale University Police Department Bomb Squads, and personnel from the FBI. The area was subsequently deemed safe. Our Detectives are working with representatives from the FBI/Joint Terrorism Task Force to identify the origin of the call.
- Burglary: June 28th, there was a burglary at a Lucy Street business. The subject threw a large rock through the front door, made entry and stole a cash register. The scene was processed and we are waiting on forensic evidence and sharing some photos with local law enforcement to try to identify a suspect.
- Fraud Cases: One case involved a civil dispute and another was an internet fraud.
- Larcenies: Theft of mail from a residence; theft of catalytic converters from an Amity Road service/repair shop.

- **Criminal Arrests:**

- June 9 – Trespassing Complaint at Sperry Park. A person was arrested for possession of marijuana and was found to be in violation of a protective order.
- June 13 – Juvenile arrest of a 15-year-old female for operating a stolen motor vehicle out of Hamden. She was caught on Litchfield Turnpike near Pond Lily.
- June 23 – Served an active arrest warrant for a suspect involved in a previous motor vehicle accident and at the time was operating another stolen vehicle.
- June 29 – Arrest warrant served on a party involved in an indecent exposure/disorderly conduct incident that occurred at a local business in 2020.

- ISU had 5 new cases including:
 - Homicide on Pease Road.
 - Sexual Assault – Investigated and closed out (unfounded).
 - Sexual Assault – Two victims; ongoing investigation.
 - JCC Bomb Threat – Working with the FBI.
 - Commercial Burglary
 - Old Cases – Arrest warrant signed for a January 2021 mail theft/check fraud case and executed the second of two arrest warrants on an armed carjacking that occurred on Litchfield Turnpike.
 - During the arrest of the first homicide suspect, they also executed five arrest warrants that were outstanding for him.
- **Traffic Activity Report:**
 - Traffic enforcement over the last two months has increased somewhat from where it was during the past several months and throughout the pandemic.
 - Last month, Patrol performed:
 - 401 traffic radar assignments
 - 386 deterrent traffic enforcement post assignments
 - Traffic Accidents decreased during the past two months:
 - 15 crashes in June; 1 with injuries, 11 no injuries, 3 evading (drivers fled the scene)

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to accept the Activity Report.

REPORT of the CHIEF of POLICE

- **TBNG – Computer Infrastructure Update:** As reported during the March meeting, the Phase 2 upgrade of our IT Network which includes replacement of our servers and other hardware, was approved by the Board of Selectmen last February and is planned to move forward in the near future. As I mentioned before and we have been talking about it for years now, we have been making due and are struggling with ongoing and frequent IT issues almost on a weekly basis. Last week, we had two days in a row that our servers were completely down and were “paused” as they were overloaded and ran out of storage capacity. That created a lot of problems and delays in every aspect of our operations and daily business including dispatch, investigations and administration. TBNG has worked on it and they were able to remedy the problem temporarily and they are monitoring it for now. They are trying to move forward with the project, but have encountered some delays due to equipment shipping and availability due to the pandemic, but plan to start the project soon and we are hopeful there won’t be further delays pushing the project out; it is very critical for us at this point. They have also identified that we have several computers that need upgrading to newer versions of their operating systems to prevent us from being hacked or compromised with a ransomware attack. Because of the age of the computers, they are out of warranty and beyond their useful life. It was recommended that replacement would be a stronger strategy, rather than upgrading them. We are working with the Finance Director and TBNG on a solution.

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to accept the Report of the Chief of Police.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

- **Request to Carry Vacation Time – Chief F. Cappiello:** Chairman Berke said that as a group we had decided that we were not going to do this, we were not going to carry over vacation time. This is a unique request only because Frank has been operating without a Deputy for some time and has been doing double duty and has been unable to take vacation time. I don’t think he should be punished because of that; I think this is a unique situation and we could carve out the exception, and I would encourage the other Commissioners to vote to accept that he be allowed to do that.

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to allow Chief F. Cappiello to carry over his unused vacation time.

- Extended Absences: Chief Cappiello reported that we have a Sergeant and a Patrolman who are going to be out of work on extended absences for medical related issues for the remainder of July and into August. Currently, they will be using accrued sick time, although one has requested Workers' Compensation, which is currently under review by the Town's insurance carrier, so we will be short staffed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board voted unanimously (Desir/Esposito) to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners and move directly into the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Traffic Authority at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Innocenzi, Administrative Assistant

WOODBRIIDGE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS WOODBRIIDGE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

July 19, 2021

Via ZOOM Platform (In accordance with SB 1202, this meeting was held by electronic transmission.)

Live Streamed – WGATV, Channel 79

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/UFKMdRKnd-A>

The Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners/Woodbridge Traffic Authority took place Monday, July 19, 2021 at 6:15 p.m., via ZOOM platform.

- *Chairman Berke called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.*

Commissioners and Liaisons Present-

Chairman Robert Berke

Commissioner Andrew Esposito, Jr.

Commissioner Deborah Fried

Commissioner Deborah Desir

Commissioner Michael Shanbrom

Police Administration Present-

Chief Frank P. Cappiello

Administrative Assistant Janice Innocenzi

Liaisons Present-

Joseph Crisco, Board of Selectmen

Ellen Scalettar, Board of Finance

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There were no Public Comments.

TRAFFIC MATTERS:

- Request to Approve – “Air Temple Arts” Outdoor Circus Show on September 18, 2021: Chief Cappiello requested the Board’s consideration to approve an additional request from “Air Temple Arts” at 11 Research Drive to use the cul de sac for another outdoor performance on September 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. (rain date of September 19).

The Board voted unanimously (Fried/Desir) to approve the “Air Temple Arts” Outdoor Circus Show on September 18, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Traffic Authority at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Janice Innocenzi, Administrative Assistant

WOODBIDGE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

MOTIONS

July 19, 2021

ELECTION of OFFICERS and SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- **Introduction:**

Chairman Berke welcomed new Commissioner Michael Shanbrom.

- **Nominations and Voting to Elect Officers for the New Term:**

Commissioner **Robert Berke** remains **Chairman**.

Commissioner Desir *nominated* Commissioner Esposito for Vice Chairman; nomination was *seconded* by Commissioner Fried (*all in favor*); *motion carries*. **Andrew Esposito, Jr. will serve as the new Vice Chairman.**

- **Appointments to Serve on the Personnel and Budget Subcommittees:**

Budget Subcommittee: Commissioner Esposito and Commissioner Shanbrom were appointed to serve on the Budget subcommittee.

Personnel Subcommittee: Commissioner Fried and Commissioner Desir were appointed to serve on the Personnel subcommittee.

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

- B.O.P.C. Regular Meeting – June 21, 2021:

On a motion made by Commissioner Fried and seconded by Commissioner Esposito, the Board voted to approve the amended minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners/Woodbridge Traffic Authority held on June 21, 2021.

- *Votes in Favor: Esposito / Berke / Desir / Fried*
- *Abstained: Shanbrom*
- *Motion carries.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There were no Public Comments.

REVIEW of REPORTS

- Financial Report:

The Board voted unanimously (Fried/Esposito) to accept the Financial Report.

- Activity Report:

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to accept the Activity Report.

REPORT of the CHIEF of POLICE

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to accept the Report of the Chief of Police.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

- Request to Carry Vacation Time – Chief F. Cappiello:

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to allow Chief F. Cappiello to carry over his unused vacation time.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board voted unanimously (Desir/Esposito) to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Board of Police Commissioners and move directly into the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Traffic Authority at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Janice Innocenzi, Administrative Assistant

WOODBRIIDGE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

MOTIONS

July 19, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There were no motions made, no votes taken.

TRAFFIC MATTERS:

- Request to Approve – “Air Temple Arts” Outdoor Circus Show on September 18, 2021:

The Board voted unanimously (Fried/Desir) to approve the “Air Temple Arts” Outdoor Circus Show on September 18, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board voted unanimously (Esposito/Fried) to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Woodbridge Traffic Authority at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Janice Innocenzi, Administrative Assistant