



I. ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. The following were present: Mayor Keith Hedrick, Police Chief David Burton, Captain Trish Lieteau, Wendy Connal, George Baloga, Bruce DeFrehn, Holly Butler, Bonnie Giesler.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the June 15, 2023 Minutes by Bruce DeFrehn, seconded by Holly Butler, approved unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mobile Meetings:

1. Mobile meetings to continue, looking for better attendance. Will continue to evaluate good locations.
2. Want to start coffee meetings at the Bill Memorial Library.

B. Investigations:

1. Still have unsolved homicide. Working closely with federal agencies on that. No other major open cases.
2. Capt. Lieteau asks that the public call City Police if you see groups of mopeds or quads through the City.
3. Haven't had any other issues.

C. Cameras:

1. Experiencing technical difficulties with the installation of the cameras. Parts needed to be ordered before they can be installed.

D. Volunteer Opportunities –

1. City Day is Aug. 4, 5 pm to 8 pm. There will be a “stuff a cruiser” event there, looking for donations of school supplies. Elks will be fitting bike helmets. Volunteers are always needed.
2. July 28 is the United Way/St. John’s food distribution, providing over 300 families with food.
3. Aug. 19: backpack giveaway at St. John’s Church

IV. CHIEF UPDATE

- A. Chief Jenkins retired, and last Friday he had a send-off.
- B. Fireworks night was better than expected, attendance was lower than usual. Everything went well.
- C. Chief Burton has been on the job for 3 days.
- D. New dispatcher has been hired and is partially certified and progressing quickly through the training process. Trying to hire 1 more dispatcher.
- E. Still hiring police officers – 2 vacancies at this time.
- F. Speed signs came in, working with Highway Dept. to get them installed at multiple locations. They are solar-powered with battery backup, and collect data, with enforcement based on data results. They are mobile and can be relocated as needed.

**PACT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
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V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. George Baloga reported that firetrucks went out in the middle of the night to Eastern Point Beach. He said the mischief that led to the call could have been avoided if the gate was closed.
- B. George reported that notice was given that Beach Pond Road will be repaved, and asked about speed bumps/humps. Mayor stated that humps/bumps were not in the plans for the current paving project.
- C. George reported that he was driving at 8 am and he almost had a collision with a Pfizer employee taking an illegal left turn. Capt. Lieteau said it is an enforcement issue. She has talked with security there and has done periodic enforcement.
- D. Wendy suggested that if the light is out at the intersection of Mitchell and Meridian, a traffic police officer be posted around 2:30 to help with traffic management.
- E. Bonnie reported that her doorbell rang late at night (10:30), and there were 2 officers there, asking her whereabouts during the day. They stated that a phone was stolen and was pinging at her address. She reports that she was the only house that was contacted. She doesn't think this was good procedure and thinks it should be reevaluated. Chief Burton responded that the ping on a phone is 30 yards. Time of the day doesn't play into it, if New London asks for assistance, officers will act. Chief advised that she ask the officers to identify themselves before opening the door, and then calling dispatch to confirm that officers were sent to her house.
- F. Bonnie reported that the traffic is so bad on Thames St. that it's difficult to walk. She thinks that there should be a traffic officer directing EB traffic to C. B. Sharp, since that is what it was built for. She also thinks that big trucks should be forbidden on Thames St. except for deliveries. Chief Burton said that the mobile traffic units are for that purpose—it will record the number of vehicles and the speed of the vehicles. It's difficult for the City Police to perform traffic control, as that is discretionary.
- G. Wendy reported the library VR prank, where 2 young men came into the library, one being loud supposedly playing a VR game, the second filming staff and other patron responses. Two area libraries were hit. Mayor Hedrick noted that these are similar to "First Amendment audits."
- H. Chief Burton is looking at community outreach:
 - a. 8-week program for citizen police academy, where community members meet with and are trained by police officers. It will conclude with ride-alongs for those over 18 years old.
 - b. Police athletics: small basketball tournaments, soccer, and flag football where police officers will coach young people.
 - c. Coffee with a cop will be starting back up at the Bill Memorial Library—the Chief wants to meet everybody!

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by George Baloga and seconded by Capt. Lieteau. It passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 17th, in the City Council Chambers.