

# MINUTES

## WATERTOWN POLICE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

WATERTOWN POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
195 FRENCH STREET  
WEDNESDAY, August 10, 2011, 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** James Blais, Chairman  
Patricia Kropp  
Gary Lafferty  
Jack Walton, V. Chairman/Secretary

**ABSENT:** Mark Tedesco

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Robert Desena, Deputy Chief

- 1. Convene Regular Meeting**  
Chairman, Jim Blais called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call**  
The roll call was executed
- 3. Public Participation and Commission Interaction**

**Chairman Blais** said Gary Lafferty has recused himself and is acting as a civilian for public participation.

**Gary Lafferty - 214 Belden Street, Watertown**

Mr. Lafferty is involved with the Police Academy and one alumni member is trying to start up a program to make sure all the buildings in town have address numbers on them. She is looking for a place to hold meetings with 6 or 9 people for a committee.

**Patricia Kropp** said there are available locations at Stop & Shop, the bank, and the Senior Center.

**Gary Lafferty** rode with an officer and observed the intersection at Davis Street and Straits Turnpike and said it is one of the darkest intersections in town at night with blind spots and asked if the traffic light could be on all the time with its normal cycle for the whole night and not blinking.

**Deputy Chief Robert Desena** said that is a state traffic issue with Straits Turnpike and that is their light and will talk to the Police Chief.

**Al Mickel 95 Woodvine Avenue**

Mr. Mickel asked what authority do you have as the traffic authority and what information do you get on the traffic studies?

**Chairman Blais** the developer has to come before us and as the traffic authority we review it and have a public hearing.

**Al Mickel** Mr. Mickel asked what type of information you look at when you review a traffic study.

**Chairman Blais** the developer has engineers, they make their presentation to us, we listen and ask questions and we as a commission vote independently.

**4. Minutes**

**a. Regular meeting – July 13, 2011**

**Chairman Blais** we will table the minutes until the next meeting.

**Jack Walton** no second for the motion.

**5. Correspondence**

**a. A letter from State DOT regarding the crosswalks.**

**6. Action Items**

**a.** Discussion Regarding the Cost to the Town for a Crosswalk at Hillside Avenue and Main Street, Oakville.

**Robert Desena** will contact the senior Traffic Engineer for Region 4, Mr. Thomas Lamb and tell him that the commission is requesting that we repaint the lines for better visibility for pedestrian safety and in turn that they also eradicate what appears to be the remnants of crosswalk there at the road light.

Motion: (Gary Lafferty sec. Patricia Kropp) Repaint Hillside and Main St. crosswalks and eliminate diagonal Crosswalk on Main St.

Aye: 4

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion is unanimous

**7. New Business**

**Patricia Kropp** noted the Watertown Police Commission website should be altered to our meeting start time at 7:00 pm instead as it is worded currently that the meetings start at 7:30 p.m. which is incorrect.

**8. Chairman's Report**  
**Mr. Blais reported:**

We have the agenda report and the Chief talked about the traffic lights situation in Oakville, Hillside Avenue and Main Street and it has been addressed by the Chief and the Deputy Chief and DOT and the motion that was made tonight is going to satisfy that problem.

**9. Chief's Report**  
**a. July 2011 – Monthly Department Activity Report**

**9. Adjournment**

MOTION: (Patricia Kropp sec. Gary Lafferty) to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Aye: 4  
Nay: 0  
Abstain: 0

Motion is unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

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James Blais, Chairman  
Watertown Police Commission