Commissioners Present:
Chairman Steve Larson, Dan Marchitello and Lori Rusnack

Commissioners Absent:
John Harris

Staff Present:
Lieutenant Jay Markella, Administrative Commander of the Cheshire Police Department

Others Present:
None

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL
The recording secretary took the roll for the meeting.

III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
It was determined that a quorum was present.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 12, 2010 Regular Meeting

MOTION by Lori Rusnack to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2010 regular meeting with the correction noted below; SECONDED by Steve Larson.

Correction to the May 12, 2010 minutes:
Page 4, item E, first paragraph, third sentence should read, “…U.S. Secret Service in 1995.”

VOTE: In Favor – Larson, Marchitello and Rusnack
Opposed – None
The motion passed 3 - 0.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Larson distributed the May 20th, 2010 edition of Status Report to Commissioners to review.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) Site Line Survey Update

Chairman Larson stated that he talked to Mr. Harris who mentioned that at the entrance to Maplecroft Plaza, coming in from Main Street near Bank of America, the stop sign there seems high. Lieutenant Markella stated that he needed to get the address for the property owner for Maplecroft Plaza so that they can be contacted with the Commission’s concerns about this and the shrubbery. He would also suggest that the word “stop” be added to the ground along with a “stop bar”.

It was also noted at the East Johnson Avenue and Route 10 intersection, the signage for the turning lanes are blocked by tree branches.

B) Safety Sign Update

Mr. Marchitello noted that the pedestrian crossings signs are missing at the Locke 12, North Brooksvale and Higgins Road Linear Trail crossings. Lieutenant Markella commented that he was aware that one had been run over but not that the others were missing. Mr. Marchitello talked about similar crossing areas in Los Angeles where the ground is painted red and white with the word “stop” written out.

Chairman Larson stated that he didn’t think the Public Safety Signs had been changed. Lieutenant Markella commented that he personally help assist in changing the signs today.

Commissioners talked about creating a sign reminding drivers not to text while driving, Ms. Rusnack reviewed with Commissioners some wording options:

- Texting while Driving? Don’t do it. The life you save may be mine!
- Driving and Texting is simply a poor choice!
- Don’t tap a text message when you’re driving!
- Hang up and drive when behind the wheel!

MOTION by Steve Larson that the Public Safety Commission should have the message “Texting while Driving? Don’t do it. The life you save may be mine!” printed in reflective lettering on a sign blank and put into rotation for the Public Safety Signs. SECONDED by Lori Rusnack.
VOTE: In Favor – Larson, Marchitello and Rusnack  
Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 - 0.

Lieutenant Markella commented that he would bring the sign blank to Cheshire Sign to have the lettering done after July 1st, for the new fiscal year.

C) Sidewalk Survey Update

Lieutenant Markella stated that he had e-mailed the Public Works department about the property on Oak Avenue, between the two condo complexes that needed to be trimmed back and about the tree on Spring Street that was brought up at the last meeting. Chairman Larson noted that he saw crews on Oak Avenue today.

Lieutenant Markella also stated that the potholes on the Linear Trail have been fixed by a private contractor, per Bob Ceccolini, Director of Parks and Recreation.

D) Radar Speed Monitoring Unit Update

The radar speed monitoring units have been out on the streets, now that the nice weather is upon us. Chairman Larson suggested that one of the radar speed monitoring units be placed near Locke 12.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A) Treasurer's Report

Lieutenant Markella reviewed the latest Treasurer’s report for the Public Safety Commission.

B) Review of Police and Fire Department’s Monthly Reports

The Commission reviewed the May 2010 Police Department monthly report.

C) Miscellaneous Unfinished Business

Chairman Larson asked what had happened with having a Boy Scout group change the Public Safety Signs. Lieutenant Markella stated that Police Chief Cruess would like to get bids from the different Boy Scout packs in Town, if the Commission wanted to go ahead with this.
D) Projects for the Future

The 2010 Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 11th. The State Police Enforcer and Roll Over Simulator are scheduled to be at the event. The Commission will also have WHALE sticker kits available.

Mr. Marchitello suggested that the Public Safety Commission could possibly get an insurance company to co-sponsor a distribution of baseball hats to elementary school students next June. The hats could be bright yellow with a message such as “Schools out, watch out for kids!” Commissioners agreed it was a great idea; Town Manager Milone and School Superintendent Florio should be contacted to discuss the idea.

E) General Discussion

Chairman Larson asked when the next Cheshire Police Department’s Citizen Police Academy’s would be starting up? Lieutenant Markella replied that the next session may be a condensed version for Elim Park residents.

Chairman Larson stated that Mr. Harris is going to talk to the Cheshire Herald about creating a “Summer Safety Tips” section.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Lori Rusnack to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.; SECONDED by Dan Marchitello.

VOTE: In Favor – Larson, Marchitello and Rusnack
Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 - 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary