Commissioners Present:
Chairman Steve Larson, John Harris and Lori Rusnack

Commissioners Absent:
Ray Sirico

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 7:23 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 – January 13, 2010 Regular Meeting

MOTION by Lori Rusnack to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2010 regular meeting as submitted; SECONDED by John Harris.

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

The motion passed 3 - 0.
VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Larson distributed the February 27th edition of Status Report to Commissioners to review, which had information about phoning while driving.

Chairman Larson informed the Commission that he contacted the publisher of Status Report to see if they have any car seat safety handouts and found out that they do not.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) Site Line Survey Update

Chairman Larson stated that he has not noticed any site line issues, while driving around Town, adding that there are no snow banks any more.

Mr. Harris mentioned the bushes in Maplecroft Plaza that should be trimmed regularly so that they don’t block the site line of drivers traveling in that plaza.

B) Safety Sign Update

Commissioners had talked about having a sign made up reminding residents about the Snow Removal Ordinance in Cheshire. Chairman Larson informed the Commission that there already is a sign reminding residents of the Snow Removal rules, which happens to be up on the Country Club Road public safety sign.

Lieutenant Markella followed up with Joe Michelangelo, Director of Public Works, after Lieutenant Mazzini had sent an e-mail asking for maintenance to be done to the Public Safety Signs, before the Summer. Mr. Michelangelo has stated that he will arrange for the maintenance to be done on the signs.

Any new slogans for a Public Safety Sign message can be brought forward at any Commission meeting.

C) Sidewalk Survey Update

Chairman Larson was not aware of any new sidewalk issues and mentioned the brick walk that needs repairs in the center of Town.

D) Radar Speed Monitoring Unit Update

Radar speed monitoring units have been put away for the winter season.
VIII.  NEW BUSINESS

A) Treasurer’s Report

Lieutenant Markella apologized for not having the latest Treasurer’s report but stated that the Public Safety Commission is on schedule with its current budget.

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

The Commission reviewed the January and February 2010 Police Department and January 2010 Fire Department monthly reports.

C) Miscellaneous Unfinished Business

Lieutenant Markella informed the Commissioners that the 400 WHALE stickers had been purchased and showed them the new packaging design that have the Town seal and “Courtesy of the Public Safety Commission” printed on them.

D) Projects for the Future

Commissioners would still like to find another location for a Public Safety sign in Town. The location would have to be on property either in a commercial or industrial zone, in order to get all of the proper approvals.

Lieutenant Markella stated that he would get a price on having a new safety sign made and a price on the sign blanks.

The 2010 Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 11th. The State Police Enforcer and Roll Over Simulator will likely be at the event. Commissioners would like to gather materials and information that could be distributed at the Fall Festival.

E) General Discussion

Lieutenant Markella stated that the Cheshire Police Department’s Citizen Police Academy had started a new session last week. There was a huge interest in the class, 30 people applied and 25 applicants were accepted. The classes will be held on Thursday nights and members of the Commission are welcome to stop by.

Lieutenant Markella informed the Commissioners that the latest RAD class had just ended in February and another class will be starting up in the next 2 to 3 weeks. Chairman Larson talked about the need and interest for a RAD type of class for high school aged girls. Commissioners agreed it would be a great idea.
Mr. Harris asked about citizens taking photographs of vehicles parked in handicapped parking spaces without any visible permits and would such a thing be enforceable by the Police Department? Lieutenant Markella replied that generally if a police officer doesn’t observe the violation, it can’t be enforced, but he will look into it.

Lieutenant Markella mentioned that police officers will be leaving notices on cars parked in public areas this Spring and Summer that they observe valuables being left in plain view. The notices will remind people to hide their valuables, if they are leaving them in a vehicle and will note that the notice is not a ticket, but rather just a reminder.

Commissioners talked about their concerns for vehicles parking on West Main Street in front of the Dunkin Donuts, especially tractor-trailer trucks. It was suggested that the property owners could be approached about putting up a “no parking” sign and perhaps adding large planters to “block” the area from vehicles looking to park there, as long as their was enough room for pedestrians to use the sidewalk.

Chairman Larson informed the Commission that Michael McCardle had recently resigned from the Public Safety Commission and he is not aware of anyone being appointed to replace him, yet.

IX.  ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by John Harris to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.; SECONDED by Lori Rusnack.

VOTE: In Favor – Harris, Larson and Rusnack

Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 - 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary