

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
**Terryville, CT 06786**

**Plymouth Police Commission**  
**Tel: 860-585-4020**

**Minutes**

**August 26, 2025**

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus called the August 26, 2025, Police Commission Special meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., in the Mayor's Conference Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus led the Plymouth Police Commission and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Present were Police Commissioner Michael Maffia, Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus, Police Commissioner Reggie Powell, and Police Commissioner Tim Murawski. Excused Absence: Police Commissioner George Castle. Also present were Police Captain John D'Aniello and Sergeant Chris Latimer.

**Public Comment**

No report.

**Old Business**

**Request for an Appropriation of funds to purchase one Police Cruiser**

Captain John D'Aniello stated their request remains the same as it was at the last Regular Police Commission meeting. Captain John D'Aniello stated the Department has one 2017 Police cruiser that is getting totaled, and the request tonight is to replace it, noting the Town will not be getting the full value of the cruiser. He further stated there is an approximate \$10,000 payment coming for it, and there will be with tow and storage fees coming out of the money they are requesting tonight. Captain John D'Aniello stated their best guess is the car is currently worth approximately \$10,000 and it will take \$83,000 to \$84,000 for another cruiser, so all they are looking to do is keep the fleet at the number they currently have.

When questioned by Police Commissioner Tim Murawski, Captain John D'Aniello stated the totaled cruiser does not have a computer in it, noting they should be able to get a computer in it with what they are requesting tonight, but he is not positive. He further stated the Axon System, the radio, the cage, and the console are transferable but the light bar is a different size so it will not be transferable. Captain John D'Aniello stated the Town might get a little money from the insurance company if any of that equipment was damaged because of the tree that fell on the cruiser.

When questioned by Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus, Captain D'Aniello stated they are not 100% decided but are considering going the route of trying a Dodge Durango.

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Cathy Paskus  
TOWN CLERK

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**Request for an Appropriation of Funds to purchase one Police Cruiser Cont'd.**

Captain John D'Aniello stated the Department needs to uphold the fleet at the current number of vehicles and they would just be replacing one for one.

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated she had spoken to the Board of Finance Chairman and told him the Police Commission was behind the replacement and briefly elaborated.

Captain John D'Aniello stated by the time they got to the Tri-Board Meeting the Police cars had been pulled from the budget. He further stated they had one Town Council Member who was trying to get the Department at least one car for the next fiscal year. Captain John D'Aniello stated when you fall behind on the replacement of cars it is a struggle to catch up on; a brief discussion followed. Captain John D'Aniello stated consideration needs to be given to the 11 year old Animal Control Officer truck, as well.

Police Commissioner Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated that part of what she heard from the public is that they see Police cars just sitting at road jobs the people think the Department has extra cars that just stay idle.

Sergeant Chris Latimer stated this is a revenue service that is bringing money in.

Captain John D'Aniello stated from his understanding per Jim Schultz, he needs the fuel used up because he pre-purchases it, and the cars out there running keep him from getting penalized on the fuel costs which he's supposed to be taking every year. He further stated the Town charges the contractors for the use of the cruiser, which is a requirement, not an option. Captain John D'Aniello stated the Department could bump that fee up, noting the fee is a little low compared to other towns. He further stated it is also in the Police Collective Bargaining that Main Street jobs will get cars and if there are cars available for other jobs around Town they will also get a car.

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated another thing she hears from the public is that when the Police aren't at a road job and the construction people are, they do fine without a Police car.

Captain John D'Aniello stated the biggest point he is going to make beyond everything already said, and more importantly than the source of revenue or anything else, is that is the safety of our Police Officers is having a car out there acting as a barricade between them and the construction job or when they're flagging traffic. He further stated the flashing lights are also for the Police Officer's safety, and he is unwilling to sacrifice safety for anybody. Captain John D'Aniello stated he will stand up for this at any meeting, noting this is the most important factor in having those flashing lights on the jobs.

Captain John D'Aniello stated when a crime does occur and the Police Officer gets a call for service, having their cruiser on site allows them to jump in and help patrol verses having their personal car instead.

**Request for an Appropriation of Funds to purchase one Police Cruiser Cont'd.**

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated she has been asked why people see Police Officers just sitting in their cruisers with the lights on at road jobs. Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated she just wanted to know how to answer people correctly.

Captain John D'Aniello stated there are certain circumstances that allow it, noting the general rule of thumb is when Police Officers are on a traffic job, they will be outside of the car, however if it is a shut road with no traffic coming through, they are allowed to sit in the car. He further stated that it is unreasonable to think someone could stand outside for multiple hours, without a five to ten minute break.

Police Commissioner Tim Murawski made a motion, seconded by Police Commissioner Reggie Powell, to approve the Police Department request for an Appropriation of Funds to purchase one Police Cruiser. This motion was approved unanimously.

**Commissioner's Comments**

Police Commissioner Michael Maffia stated that a number of Departments have started going to Durango's because of the recalls with Ford.

When questioned by Police Commissioner Michael Maffia, Captain John D'Aniello stated Police cruiser #17 came back today, noting the battery had been changed out.

Sergeant Chris Latimer stated that currently the Department has two cars at the dealership; one being the Chief's car which is getting a brand new engine installed in it. He further stated Detective Sergeant Berios' car has an electrical issue. Sergeant Chris Latimer stated another cruiser is going in tomorrow for a front differential and another one will be going in tomorrow for a new battery.

Police Commission Chairwoman Cathy Paskus stated she wanted to thank the Captain and the Sergeant for attending this evening's meeting and for providing information

**Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Plymouth Police Commission, Police Commissioner George Castle made a motion, seconded by Police Commissioner Reggie Powell, to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Patricia A. Hale, Recording Secretary