

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**1. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Kenneth Fellenbaum, Melvin Eisenhandler, Alberta Jagoe, Carol Faruolo, Carlton Giles and Thomas Zawislinski.

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Keith Mello; Deputy Chief Fournier; Aldermen Phil Vetro; L. Streit, Secretary

Comm. Fellenbaum called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Comm. Giles, seconded by Comm. Jagoe to amend the agenda to add the appointment of Officer Doyle to item 2 and to add item 3 – Reorganization of the Committee to include a – election of Officers and b – appointment of committees. The motion carried unanimously

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS**

- **Officer Doyle** – Chief Mello reported that Officer Doyle successfully completed his 12 month probationary period. Comm. Giles swore Officer Doyle in.

**3. REORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION**

- a. **Election of Officers** – A motion was made by Comm. Jagoe, seconded by Comm. Eisenhandler to nominate Comm. Fellenbaum Chairman. Comm. Jagoe stated that he has performed an outstanding job without politics and with fairness. A motion was made by Comm. Zawislinski, seconded by Comm. Giles to close the nominations for Chairman and was carried unanimously. The original motion carried unanimously naming **Comm. Fellenbaum Chairman**. Comm. Fellenbaum thanked the Board. A motion was made by Comm. Faruolo, seconded by Comm. Jagoe to nominate Comm. Giles Vice Chairman. Comm. Giles stated the same accolades noting that he is very qualified and a pleasure to work with. A motion was made by Comm. Zawislinski, seconded by Comm. Jagoe to close the nominations for Vice Chairman and was carried unanimously. The original motion carried unanimously naming **Comm. Giles Vice Chairman**. Comm. Giles thanked the board. Comm. Fellenbaum appointed the following committees and asked that they be prepared with information and motions when items come before the board:
  - a. **Planning & Zoning:** Comm. Zawislinski and Comm. Faruolo.
  - b. **Finance:** Comm. Jagoe and Comm. Eisenhandler.
  - c. **Personnel:** Comm. Giles and Comm. Fellenbaum.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Comm. Fellenbaum welcomed Linda Stock back; she has been missed.
- Robert Masud, 18 Intervale Parkway stated that he has been in contact with Sgt. Sharoh that there has been a major increase in traffic in this area. There are nights that a vehicle can not get down the road. There are 80-100 yards of cars on the street, on the green, etc. and he brought a petition signed by all but 3 residents in the area. He also brought pictures of the area; there is no grass left on the green and cars are parking all over. He is looking for an ordinance for no parking on the grass for this area and others as well. Chief Mello reported that the traffic study for this area is near completion and will be addressed at the next meeting.
- Rick Jurzuk, 23 Hedgefield Court, is part owner of The Bridgehouse Restaurant and stated that there is a problem on Fridays and Saturdays with parking and that he wished that Mr. Masud came to them. He did note that there are no signs in the area and there has been heavy construction in the area; winter came before the landscaping was complete and they are well aware of the problem and are trying to work on it.
- Frank Goodrich, 70 Regent Terrace, Planning & Zoning Board Member – stated that they knew there would be a parking problem here and it was approved anyway. He is aware of the problem and the business is great but in need of parking.
- Mr. Masud noted that it was probably not customers of the restaurant damaging the green but cars are driving through. He knows the owners of the restaurant and is not blaming them – the traffic increased due to business; the problem is safety – there are elderly residents and small children in the neighborhood.
- John Higgins, 85 Milford Point Road – stated that since the spring 75 Milford Point Road has had renters and there are 9 kids living there; driving ATV's. He has called the police and they have come and left stating that it is private property. They were told that this is not private property and is a continual problem. There is a no wake zone and the mother from the property is riding a wave runner/jet ski 20' from shore. The police have been called and there has been no response. It is illegal to have an ATV on the beach and they are probably under age drivers. They are destroying the beach and he would like action taken. Comm. Zawislinski stated that if ATV's are prohibited on the beach that the CT DEP and the Fish and Wildlife can also be contacted and monitor this.
- William Lipski, 27 Milford Point Road stated that he had a problem with 49 Milford Point Road. The beach property is private and they are going through everyone's yard. He has called the police and been told that nothing can be done. He had pictures of tire tracks. Officer Dohr and Fritz responded and there was a lot of arguing between the officers and himself and the officer was confronted by Internal Affairs. Comm. Fellenbaum asked that comments be kept to those within the Commission's perview.
- Margarita Barab, 102 Milford Point Road stated that she is part of Cedar Beach and she came before the Commission last summer with problems of noise, etc. and there has been a dramatic improvement and she thanked the Commission. But, parking was also an issue brought up last year and this has not been resolved. The corner of Seaview and Milford Point Road is an issue. There was a No Parking sign there and

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

it is no longer there. Right before the stop sign people park and it obstructs all views. The owner of this property owns SBC as well and he renovated this property and occupies one level and rents the other and there is no additional parking. It was reported this weekend and she was told that nothing could be done; there are no signs. The sign needs to be back up. Comm. Fellenbaum stated that this will be looked into. Chief Mello stated that procedure is that a complaint originates with the Police Department and then goes to the Commission. A parking sign – records will have to be researched and a request with Public Works would be filed if a sign existed for one to be put back up. If a sign did not exist that a Traffic Study could be requested; once a study is done, a recommendation is made and this goes to the Commission for approval or denial.

- Joe DellaMonica Sr., 60 Berner Terrace – thanked the Commission for their service and thanked Mr. Tony Candido for his service; he served well and is proud of his contributions and he hopes the next person does as well.
- Tony Candido, 4 Topfield Road – thanked the Commission for allowing him to serve. He is proud to of served during his time especially during the time of searching for the Chief of Police. Chief Mello is the finest Chief in the State of CT. Mr. Candido works with a lot of other departments in the state and the Chief is respected state wide. The citizens should be proud of the Police Department; they put their life on the line for the citizens and they should be respected. Mr. Candido has a youth group and Officer Neilson contributes his own time to participate in this and has made the group realize how fine the Police Department is and that they could be trusted and are approachable. He will always respect and support the Department and the Chief and thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve. Comm. Faruolo stated that Mr. Candido will be very much missed; he was very helpful when she was new on the board and it was a great experience. Comm. Jagoe stated that all of the board members feel the same and was sorry for the actions that took place last week. Chief Mello thanked Mr. Candido for his service to the Police Department and the Commission and that he has been a big supporter of both especially during the Chief's transition. Comm. Fellenbaum stated that everyone worked very well together and Mr. Candido served on the board for 6 years and will be very much missed.
- Phil Vetro, Majority Leader for the Board of Aldermen congratulated the Officers and stated that he is looking forward to a date for the Police Department Open House. The Chief stated that the Civilian Police Academy will begin on 1/17/08 and they will have a tour and he hopes it will be an annual event. The session ends on 3/27/08 – it runs for 11 weeks and there are excellent candidates, the session is more than filled and the agenda will be distributed at the next meeting but it will include: Department history and chain of command; Patrol Responsibility; DUI Enforcement; Detective Division and crime scene mock up; CPR Training; Administration – Internal Affairs; Weapon Safety and use of force; Simulator – crime scene shoot or don't shoot; Tazer Demonstration; Driving Simulator; Crime Prevention; Canine Demonstration; Penal Code, search and seizure; Police Stereotypes and Graduation. The Chief stated that he is hoping to accept donations for T-Shirts, certificates and refreshments to defer the costs.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

- Comm. Zawislinski stated that he had a problem with the gentleman speaking with specific Officer's names and them not being present to defend themselves. Chief Mello stated that he respects everyone's right to express their opinion and he encourages citizens comments and everything is investigated and the system works and he appreciates Comm. Zawislinski defending the officers privacy.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion was made by Comm. Giles, seconded by Comm. Jagoe to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented and carried unanimously.

**5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Mello noted the following:

- A thank you card from the Barnek family. Thanking Officers Morin, Demejian and Localzo for the escort during a funeral.
- A letter from Chief of Police Buturla from the Town of Stratford thanking Sgt. Dempsey and other Instructors for their participation in the graduation last month. He was impressed with their exemplary effort and role of the staff during training. Comm. Fellenbaum noted that he spoke to Officer Dancy and he stated that the high point of his career was his experience in the Academy.
- A thank you card was received from a family thanking Officer Doyle for his assistance in their time of crisis.
- A thank you letter was received from Debbie Horn, Director of Development with the Special Olympics thanking the department for their support with the Tip A Cop fundraiser that raised \$1,648.28 to support their year round sports and development programs
- A thank you card was received thanking Detective Rahn for his following up with an arrest warrant.
- A thank you letter was received regarding an accident on 10/21/07. Thanking Officer Chris Doyle for his concern, kindness and compassion. He was very comforting, professional and kind.
- A letter was received from Chief Ortiz of the New Haven Police Department thanking Officer Nielson for serving on the panel for interviews for the new class of officers.
- A letter was received from the Law Firm of Pullman & Comley thanking Sgt. Youd for his attendance in court and his expertise and demeanor which was an excellent reflection of the Police Department.
- A thank you letter was received from Anthony Trimboli of Howard Beach, NY thanking Captain Butler from his response to questions.
- A thank you letter from Barbara Miller whom attended her grandson's graduation of the Academy. She was very impressed. Comm. Jagoe stated that the graduation ceremony was very impressive.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION**

- a. Officer Jarrad Seely has submitted his resignation effective 1/17/08–** The Chief reported that Officer Seely is taking a job with the Bristol Police Department due to the location. He has been with Milford for just under 2 years and the Chief has signed a waiver to accommodate this.
- b. Accident Free mileage awards to Officers Daniel Bedeker and William Localzo and Sgt. Kevin Walsh.** – The officers had 25,000 accident free miles and will receive 8 hours time. A motion was made by Comm. Giles, seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve these awards. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Donation from Linda Pierpont in the amount of \$100.00 to the Police Union –** these funds were donated due to assistance on a call.

**7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS**

**a. 840 Oronoque Road – Milford Compressor Station**

A motion was made by Comm. Zawislinski, seconded by Comm. Eisenhandler to adopt Traffic's recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

- a. Uniform Crime Report**
- b. Youth Bureau Report**
- c. Crime Prevention Services Report**
- d. Detective Bureau Cases Report**
- e. General Highway Safety Summary**

A motion to accept reports a-e was made by Comm. Zawislinski seconded by Comm. Faruolo. The Chief reported on item c. noting the alarm reduction program and a 17% decrease in false alarms in 3-4 years. This is 600 less false alarms responded to which benefits the entire community. This program is one of the most successful in the state and is attributed to Officer Vaughn Dumas. The motion to accept the reports carried unanimously.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**Board of Police Commission Award** – The Chief reviewed the memo regarding a biennial awards ceremony to honor those officers and civilians for their courageous and exemplary performance over the past two years. Two awards were created: 1) The William Garfield Leadership Award that will be given to a person who best portrays the leadership qualities of retired Captain William Garfield over the designated period of two years. 2) The Board of Police Commissioner's Award that will be given to any deserving employee that has demonstrated a commitment to further the goals and vision of the Milford Police Department.

A motion was made by Comm. Giles, seconded by Comm. Zawislinski to affirm the creation of the Board of Police Commission Award. It was noted that this award is thanks to the Chief for his innovation and leadership and three decades of experience which improves camaraderie. The Chief noted that this award is peer driven with the focus on the positive. An award coin for above and beyond duty is also a new recognition created. These coins were distributed. The Commission will limit its role to approval, not nominations. The ceremony will take place the end of spring or beginning of summer. The motion to affirm this creation carried unanimously.

**11. COMMENDATIONS – None.**

At 8:15 p.m. Comm. Giles moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following items. The motion was seconded by Comm. Jagoe and carried unanimously by roll call vote. Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Fournier were asked to remain.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE MATTERS CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION AND HEALTH OR DISMISSAL OF DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.**

- a. Probationary Reviews:** Officer Christopher Doyle final quarterly review and swearing in as a Regular Officer effective 1/6/08
- b. Consideration of the performance of (2) employees.**

At 8:45 p.m. the Commission left Executive Session. A motion was made by Comm. Giles, seconded by Comm. Jagoe to authorize sick time deficit for review of the Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Jagoe moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously after a second by Comm. Faruolo.

**ATTEST:**

**\_\_\_\_\_  
LISA STREIT, SECRETARY**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008  
COMMISSIONERS ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**