

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**1. ROLL CALL**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Carol Faruolo, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, David Rubenstein, Richard Smith

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Jerold Wanosky

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Mooney, Ald. Vetro, Mr. Mead (P & Z) and D. Candido, Secty.

A quorum was present to conduct the business of the meeting.

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none.**

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- E. Mead, P & Z Liaison – updated the Commission on the purchase of the Star Café in Devon by the Irish Heritage Society, noting the transaction is almost complete and the group hopes to take occupancy by the summer.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Chief Gerald Narowski, Derby Police Dept. – conveying sincere thanks to members of the Department who participated in the execution of two search and seizure warrants in Derby on 2/19. Expressed thanks for the resources which resulted in the disrupting the sale of narcotics and two drug related arrests.
- Ann Fabian, Exec. Director, Milford Rape Crisis – expressed sincere thanks for the donation of a Police Car Ride on St. Patrick's Day, donated at the live auction at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Indoor Golf Classic.

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

a. Informational: Deputy Chief Gerald Butler will retire effective April 23, 2014 – Chief Mello explained Deputy Chief Butler has accepted a position as Deputy Chief in Lake City, Florida and he added that he will be missed in the Department.

Chrmn. Jagoe thanked Deputy Chief Butler and wished him the best.

Chief Mello explained by contract, it is the Chief who appoints someone to fill that vacant position within 45 days. He added in the past the department had 3 Captains and 1 Deputy

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Chief which is being considered at this time. He went on to say that such an agreement must be negotiated with the union and he has had discussion with the union regarding the matter and the matter will be considered at an upcoming union meeting.

Chief Mello added Deputy Chief Butler had an aptitude for technology and losing his skills will be difficult for there is no one else who has the level of skills he has. He stated a full time ITG person would be the best thing for our department as most departments the size of Milford have a full time IT person on staff. He also added that when the Chief was preparing the 2015 budget, he was not aware of this upcoming vacancy and therefore the budget does not reflect monies for this technological support and if necessary it will be considered in the next budget preparation.

Chrmn. Jagoe again stated Deputy Chief Butler has done a great job in our department.

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

a. 1556 New Haven Avenue – Bella Properties, 8 Units, 8-30g Affordable Housing Project – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve Traffic Div. request regarding 1556 New Haven Avenue – Bella Properties, 8 Units, 8-30g Affordable Housing Project.

Comm. Smith noted the way he understands it, this commission's role with regard to such requests pertains only to parking not to sidewalks. He questioned when this commission conditionally approves requests and the matters moves on to the next board, who also give conditional approval, does the matter eventually go forward.

Chief Mello explained conditional approval is tentative approval. P & Z only receives a recommendation for this department and it is not binding. He added he has had conversation with Mr. Sulkis who has stated this department has no authority with regard to such matters. It has been suggested the matter be taken up with the city attorney to provide a clearer criteria. He also noted Mr. Sulkis agreed we should be looking at public safety issues and issues of sight lines.

Comm. Smith asked if parking spaces and sidewalks are not our area, what is the role of this commission in reviewing these requests.

Chief Mello stated historically this commission has reviewed these matters and he did not feel it was appropriate for him to make such changes but if it is what this commission chooses, he would take the steps to change what has been done historically with regard to this type of request.

Chrmn. Jagoe felt it provides the opportunity for another set of eyes to look at the request.

Chief Mello added a similar concern was brought up when he wanted this commission to review the budget prior to its presentation but he was told the commission has no role when it comes to the budget and he disagreed with that and felt having the commission look at the budget before formal presentation is a valuable part of the overseeing of the department.

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Comm. Smith stated it is the purview of P & Z on such matters and what this commission says, in the end, does not matter.

Chief Mello stated when it comes to things we think will impact public safety, it is important and it protects the department and the Chief.

Comm. Smith again stated he was attempting to seek clarity as to what type of responsibility this commission has on such matters.

It was agreed to continue the commission's overview as we have historically done.

Comm. Faruolo asked if our comments have any validity when the matters moves on to P & Z and Mr. Mead stated they certainly do.

Motion carried unanimously.

**8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve the following reports:

- a. Uniform Crime Report
- b. Special Investigations Unit Report
- c. Detective Bureau Report
- d. Crime Prevention Services Report
- e. Traffic Division & Licensing Unit Report

Motion carried unanimously.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. No parking request – Nicole Drive/Mary Ellen Drive – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept Traffic Div. recommendation regarding no parking request – Nicole Drive/Mary Ellen Drive. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. No parking zone request during school hours – Art St/Overlook Drive – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Smith to accept Traffic Div. recommendation regarding no parking zone request during school hours – Art St/Overlook Drive. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Request for barricade or guard rail – 508 North St – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept Traffic Div. recommendation regarding request for barricade or guard rail – 508 North St. Motion carried unanimously.

**11. COMMENDATIONS - none**

**12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Smith to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. for Consideration of Report of Chief of Police on matters concerning the Appointment, Employment, Performance, Evaluation, Health, or Dismissal of Department Employees.

- a. 3rd quarter probationary review for two Officers
- b. Consideration of the performance of two employees

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Smith to reconvene in public session at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to uphold the disciplinary recommendation of Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded Comm. Marrone to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido  
Submitted to City Clerk, March 11, 2014