

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Smith 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, Jerold Wanosky

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Officer Broderick; Officer Moreno; Debra Kelly, Asst, City Attny; Ald. Vetro; E. Mead, P & Z; D. Candido, Secty.

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

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Ald. Vetro – thanked Chief Mello and his staff for persistence in obtaining grants from the State of CT to assist in fighting crime in our city.
- C. Jermain – 2 Little Pond Rd – directed comments to statement made by Chief Mello during last month's meeting regarding what department has jurisdiction over safety and site line violations. She explained that she thought the Chief had stated the MPD had that authority.

Chief Mello interjected he had stated it was "this board of commissioners" (i.e. Milford Police Commission).

Ms. Jermain went on to share a recent conversation she had with Public Works Director; also expressed her disappointment in the fact that the minutes of the March meeting did not refer to a letter she had presented to the Chief at that meeting and a list of names of area residents in support of the request for the intersection of Morningside & Little Pond Rd.

Chief Mello explained anything presented at the meeting is included as part of the official record.

Comm. Jagoe explained this commission's rules indicate that we give members of the public the same courtesy and time limits as given by the Board of Aldermen which is three minutes.

Chrmn. Smith also explained that the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting should not be a forum for public debate.

- K. McGuire – 29 Hilldale Court - corrected her address as noted in the March Police Comm. Minutes. She explained the cul-de-sac where she resides is the only exit from the neighborhood onto Morningside Dr. and added that although she does not reside on Little Pond, she is concerned about this request. Further she made reference to the March minutes of the Police Commission and the statement made by Chief Mello that he felt there was no reason to revisit the request again.

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Chrmn. Smith stated Ms. McGuire's address will be corrected in this month's minutes.

- Ms. Jermain agreed that the cul-de-sac has one exit out onto Morningside and she referred to the law in CT which states when the driver approaches an intersection and is turning left, they need to make a complete top and begin the turn after looking left and she made reference to the near accidents which occur when turns are not made from the correct lane.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2015 meeting noting the correction of the address of Ms. McGuire as 29 Hilldale Court. Motion carried with Comm. Wanosky abstaining as he was not present at the March meeting.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Frank Teti, Jr., Webster Bank – referred to robbery on 3/23/15 at the Orange branch of Webster Bank and acknowledged the assistance of Officer Degnan and Officer Ballard and K9 Diesel in quickly locating the suspect which led to subsequent arrest.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to make the following changes to the agenda:

6a. should read: *Consideration of safe drive awards....*

Unfinished Business addition:

a. Stop sign request Morningside & Little Pond Road

Reorder the agenda to bring Executive Session to this point in the agenda

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Executive Session - Consideration of Report of Chief of Police on matters concerning the Appointment, Employment, Performance, Evaluation, Health, or Dismissal of Department Employees.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. for the following matters:

- a. Consideration of the performance of two employees.
- b. Grievance #1-2015 at step #3

Officer Broderick and Asst. City Attorney Kelly was present for item b and Officer Moreno was present for item a as well as Chief Mello and commissioners.

Motion carried unanimously.

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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to reconvene in public session at 8:21 p.m.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to support the Chief's recommendation regarding performance of two employees (item a) and to deny Grievance #1-2015 at Step 3 (item b). Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

- a. Consideration of safe driving awards to the following Officers: Det. Jeffrey Cortes, Off. Brandon Davidson, Off. Austin Groves, Off. Matthew Lima, Off. Keith Ruggiero, Off. Joseph Sikorsky, Off. Emily Sopchak.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve the Chief's recommendation regarding safe driving awards to the following Officers: Det. Jeffrey Cortes, Off. Brandon Davidson, Off. Austin Groves, Off. Matthew Lima, Off. Keith Ruggiero, Off. Joseph Sikorsky, Off. Emily Sopchak. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Donation from car seat inspection – Chief Mello recommended the \$10 donation received from Peter Butanowicz for a car seat inspection be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to place the \$10 donation received from Peter Butanowicz for a car seat inspection be placed in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Unclaimed money from Evidence in the amount of \$192.46 - It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to place the Unclaimed money from Evidence in the amount of \$192.46 in the 100th Anniversary account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello explained that it had been decided last month to set the criteria for candidates for the position of Deputy Chief and he noted he had shared with the commissioners his intention to put forth the name of Capt. Kenneth Rahn for the position of Deputy Chief. He submitted the resume of Capt. Rahn to the commissioners at this time adding he would like to bring Capt. Rahn in for an interview at the May 2015 meeting. Chief Mello added he felt Capt. Rahn has the skill set and leadership skills, has the respect of his peers and supervisors and highly meets the criteria. Chief added he supports this recommendation very much and felt Capt. Rahn will serve the Department well.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

- a. Pops Family Restaurant – 134 Old Gate Lane – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Pops Family Restaurant – 134 Old Gate Lane.

Discussion ensued regarding site line recommendations included in the report. Chief Mello

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emphasized the fact these are only recommendations sent to P & Z and this department's responsibility centers mostly on site line and traffic impact.

Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Stevens Manufacturing – 220 Rock Lane – Expansion – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Stevens Manufacturing – 220 Rock Lane – Expansion. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Affordable Housing Project – 1613 New Haven Ave. – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Affordable Housing Project – 1613 New Haven Ave.

Chief Mello explained this is a rejection of the current plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

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

- a. Special Investigations Unit Report
- b. Detective Bureau Report
- c. Crime Prevention Unit Report
- d. Traffic Division and Licensing Unit Report

Motion carried unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Stop sign request Morningside Drive & Little Pond Road – Chief Mello explained this request is the result of discussion at last month's meeting to reopen the study. He stated the bushes at the intersection have been cut back and the department is no longer recommending a stop sign as long as the shrubs are trimmed and maintained by the owner and do not obstruct site line.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding the stop sign request at Morningside Drive & Little Pond Road as explained by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Request for Advanced Green Light – Naugatuck/Bridgeport Ave – Chief Mello explained the recommendation is for the Department to request DOT to install a left turn light at this intersection.

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It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the request for Advanced Green Light – Naugatuck/Bridgeport Ave as explained by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Request for Westbound left turn lane extension – Bridgeport Ave/Naugatuck Ave – Chief Mello explained this request was called into the Mayor's office from a citizen regarding the turn lane. He stated there is currently a flare in the road to allow cars to queue out in the left turn lane and this request is to have the 2nd lane extended resulting in the loss of three parking spaces on the south side of Bridgeport Ave. He noted this will be a request to DOT as well since this is a state road.

Comm. Faruolo asked if the loss of the parking spaces will impact the parking for local businesses and she expressed her concern regarding the loss of those spaces.

Chief Mello explained with the exception of the bar on the corner, most customers park in the rear parking lot.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve the request for Westbound left turn lane extension as explained by Chief Mello.

11. COMMENDATIONS - none

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION – reordered to earlier on the agenda

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, April 14, 2015