

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11, 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, David Rubenstein, Richard Smith, Jerold Wanosky

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Sharon Marrone (ill)

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Capt. Rahn; Lt. Dumas; 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

- S. Jerue – resident – having just completed the Citizens Police Academy she wanted to take the opportunity to thank the Chief for his support of this wonderful program adding she is looking forward to serving as an alumni member of the Academy.
- E. Mead – P & Z – thanked the Department for last month's traffic enhancement in the Devon center, specifically during the busy traffic time between 4 – 6 p.m. at which time numerous stops were made.
- J. Carissimi – thanked the Department and Capt. Marschner for their assistance in advising and helping him and a family member properly dispose of ammunition.

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 April 13, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Lt. Wydra – Milford resident/Hamden Police Dept – thanked the Department for a funeral escort at recent service of family member.
- Michael DiGioia – Webster Bank, Wallingford – Commended Officer Bova for his demeanor and professionalism while performing his duty as a police officer
- National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) – acknowledging and congratulating Officer Kiely as the NASRO recipient of the National Award of Valor for his courageous actions and bravery on 4/25/14 at Jonathan Law High School, noting the award will be presented at the NASRO Conference in Orlando, Florida in July.

Chief Mello also shared the letter of recommendation sent by Gianni Ragaini, Dean of Students at Jonathan Law which nominated Officer Kiely for this award. The letter

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commended Officer Kiely's action on 4/25/14 and the many days and weeks which followed. It also noted that Officer Kiely is of value to the student body and staff as he continues to be a respected role model, friend, counselor and confidante to the students and staff.

Chief Mello stated he and Officer Kiely's fellow officers are proud of him and congratulate him for being awarded this honor and will work together as a department to see that he is able to travel to Orlando to accept the award.

- Alisha Williams – Health & Wellness Director, Woodruff YMCA – thanked Officer Dempsey for his participation in the Healthy Kids Day Event adding the K-9 unit was a huge hit.
- A. Vitti, Executive Director of Milford Rape Crisis Center – thanked the Department for their sponsorship in the 9th Annual Walk A Mile In Her Shoes event.
- Cyrus Settineri – former member of the Citizens Police Academy – commended Officer Kyle Magnan for the opportunity to complete his participation in the academy program with the “ride along” which took place last month. He noted Officer Magnan has a passion for his job, is courteous and respectful and thorough in his efforts.
- Donna & Sam Sutter – Hickory Ave. – thanked Officer Hemperly, Officer McNemar, Officer Moreno for their prompt and courteous response to an emergency situation at their home.
- Joe Blichfeldt – 650 Gulf St. – congratulated Chief Mello on the appearance and efficiency of the officers in the Department.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

a. Donation from car seat clinic in the amount of \$20.00 – Chief Mello acknowledged the \$20 donation from Ronnie Martin and recommended said donation be placed in the DARE Account.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$20 donation from Ronnie Martin and place said donation in the DARE Account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mello added that during the year a good deal of money is placed in this account which supports this excellent program. He noted if this program is valued, it will be necessary to begin taking a look at such programs to decide which will continue to be funded and offered.

b. Off Duty Weapon authorizations for Off. P. Hoff, Off. D. Frith, Off. C. Murray and Off. S. Carney.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve the Chief's recommendation regarding safe driving awards to the following Officers: Off. P. Hoff, Off. D. Frith, Off. C. Murray and Off. S. Carney. Motion carried unanimously.

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c. Donation in the amount of \$25.00 from Dorothy Downie – Chief Mello acknowledged the \$25 donation from Dorothy Downie and recommended said donation be placed in the 100th Anniversary Account.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the \$25 donation from Dorothy Downie and place said donation in the 100th Anniversary Account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Chief's General comments – Chief stated in the early morning hours, on this date, retirees, officers and recruits along with the Wasson family met at the Boston Post Road where Officer Wasson was shot and had a brief ceremony followed by a breakfast. He added officers ran from our headquarters to the bowling area location as part of the annual tradition and to pay respect to Officer Wasson's memory

Further, Chief Mello reminded commissioners of the upcoming Police Academy Graduation and Citizens Police Academy Graduation noting they were invited to the ceremonies to be held later this month.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

a. Wheelers Woods – Wheelers Farm Rd/East Rutland Rd. – Lt. Dumas was present to answer/address concerns the commission may have regarding this request. Also present were Attny Hollister, D. Sullivan & J. Gillmore representing Wheeler Woods, LLC.

Lt. Dumas noted minimum parking requirements were not met but there is a request submitted to P & Z which is why the Department had not made a recommendation at this time.

Comm. Jagoe stated parking may be an issue but she felt the more important issue is the effect on the traffic and safety in that area.

Lt. Dumas noted the traffic lights on Wheelers Farm Road, specifically in the area of the proposal, will be put back into place.

Chief Mello explained the traffic lights were installed due to the traffic from the corporate parks but those lights need to be put in sync again.

Comm. Faruolo noted with no parking decision made at this time, can this commission deal with this matter now.

It was noted P & Z has a hearing scheduled on this matter for 5/19.

Comm. Wanosky felt this commission has nothing to vote on at this time.

Comm. Jagoe suggested tabling this until further information was received.

Mr. Hollister stated a request for a regulation change was made for the parking for the 3 bedroom units and they have asked those units be allowed two parking spaces not three.

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Comm. Jagoe asked if this proposal would be considered affordable housing and she was told yes.

Lt. Dumas stated the Department did not know the waiver was for only the 3 bedroom units but thought it was for all of the units and he had issue with the parking allotments.

Comm. Rubinstein asked if there is any concern with the road that is locked and Chief Mello explained the property owners need to provide the Department emergency access and that locked road is a secondary entrance which needs to remain closed.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to table this matter until additional information is received from Lt. Dumas adding the waiver change is needed before a recommendation can be made. 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. Special Investigations Unit Report
- b. Detective Bureau Report
- c. Crime Prevention Unit Report
- d. Traffic Division and Licensing Unit Report

Comm. Jagoe referred to the Detective Bureau Report noting one detective seemed to have a heavier assignment than others and Chief Mello explained it can depend on what the cases are as they may have been related cases which would increase the total number.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Change location of No Parking sign – Joanne Drive/Botsford Ave – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve Traffic Division recommendation regarding change of location of No Parking sign – Joanne Drive/Botsford Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Crosswalk Request –Harborside Dr/Elton St/Shipyard Lane – It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Division recommendation regarding crosswalk request –Harborside Dr/Elton St/Shipyard Lane. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Meadowside School – Parking lot/drop off area re-design – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to approve Traffic Division recommendation regarding Meadowside School – parking lot/drop off area re-design. Motion carried unanimously.

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11. COMMENDATIONS - none

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. Faruolo to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. for the following:

- a. Consideration of Deputy Chief position.
- b. Quarterly probationary review for one Officer.

Chief Mello, Capt. Rahn and the commissioners were included in Executive Session.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to reconvene in public session at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept Chief Mello's recommendation to appoint Capt. Kenneth Rahn as Deputy Chief, effective date yet to be determined. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, May 12, 2015