

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING 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; Deputy Chief Rahn; Capt. 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 – Chief Mello introduced 8 probation police officers who have completed their probation period and at this time were sworn in as regular police officers. Comm. Rubinstein administered the Oath to the following Officers: John Binkowski, David Bodnar, Nikki Bova, Steven Dubrow, Matthew Goldfuss, Kevin Hilliard, Christopher Murray, Krystian Zbikowski.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- J. O'Connell – 102 E. Rutland Rd – (presented copy of petition with 800 signatures) – noted the Police Commission is charged with the task of public safety and she was present at the meeting to urge denial of the request before this body for Wheeler Woods. She stated traffic is extremely heavy and dangerous in the area; referred to damage to property by vehicles, traffic tie ups due to delivery trucks and garbage trucks accessing homes on E. Rutland. Also noted the loss of a life due to a pedestrian being hit by a car in the area. Also presented copy of newspaper article referring to average of 1 car crash per week in this area. Noted there was no traffic study done on E. Rutland Rd and she also directed comments to the gravel emergency access road to the development and problem with emergency vehicles traveling on that surface.
- K. McGuire – 29 Milldale Ct – thanked the Police Comm. For denying the request for a stop sign at the intersection of Morningside/Little Pond Rd. She added she was concerned consideration was given to this request based on the individual's personal complaints, also noting she has filed a complaint with the Department against this individual.

With regard to the individuals present to address the Wheeler Woods request, Chief Mello stated any letters previously sent to him have been included in the Commissioner's packets and will be part of the record of this meeting.

- R. Krasenics – 86 E. Rutland Rd – recently had to have rear entry put in at her home because she was concerned about the traffic flow in the front of her home and getting out of her driveway.
- A. Wheaton – Cedar Hill Rd – as a recent alumnus of the Citizens Police Academy, he stated he was present at the meeting purely out of interest and to thank the Chief and the Department for the incredible experience of the Academy.
- P. Kelley – 329 Wheelers Farms Rd – stated she lives diagonally across from E. Rutland and she already has a difficult time exiting her driveway because of the amount of traffic, adding

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.

TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

sometimes it takes as long as 5 minutes to exit her driveway out into the street. She questioned how, adding so many more cars in the neighborhood, will be safe.

- M. O'Connell – 102 E. Rutland Rd – curious as to why there was not a traffic study done on E. Rutland Rd noting the road is extremely narrow and congested.
- J. Iaffaldano – 45 Yankee Hollow Rd – directed comments to the fact residents cannot safely ride bikes or jog on E. Rutland Rd as the road is heavily traveled by people who want to avoid traffic congestion. He felt the roads in Milford have not been designed to accommodate all of the housing development in the city.
- L. DiPrado – 166 E. Rutland Rd – referred to the relocation of her child's bus stop due to safety concerns and lack of sidewalks.
- S. Jerue – 610 Merwin Ave – thanked Chief Mello and the Department for the opportunity to be part of the Citizens Police Academy.
- T. Nichols – Chevelle Pl – shared a photo of an 11 car back up on Wheelers Farms Road waiting to turn into E. Rutland Rd at 5:19 p.m. on a weekday. Felt contractor has not taken into consideration all the cars which could be in this development. Also expressed concern about lack of traffic study. He added the Cornerstone Christian Church which is on Wheelers Farms Rd, across from proposed development, uses the parking lot at the corporate center for additional parking on Sunday mornings and because the street is so heavily traveled, they have had to use a shuttle bus to bring people from the extra parking lot to right across the street to the church. He also requested consideration of sidewalks installed on E. Rutland Rd. He also stated the alleged emergency exit from the development is not practical. He requested a traffic light at E. Rutland, crosswalks and crossing signals and installation of sidewalks on Wheelers Farms Road.
- Daniel Burns – E. Rutland Road – referred to newspaper article regarding CT roads and rural road traffic fatalities. Suggested another traffic study be done by a non-profit group.
- Ald. Vetro congratulated Deputy Chief Rahn and Capt. Dumas for their recent promotions.

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 May 11, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to reorder the agenda to bring item 7a (only) Wheeler Woods – Wheelers Farm/East Rutland Rd (tabled from last month) to this point in the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to remove from the table Wheeler Woods – Wheelers Farm/East Rutland Rd. Motion carried unanimously.

Capt. Dumas provided updated information from the developers comparing this proposed development to other area residential properties. He noted there are not enough parking for residents and the additional parking needed for the clubhouse on the property. Further, it was estimated there would be 80 vacant spaces to be used at the clubhouse but they could not be designated solely for the clubhouse. Capt. Dumas stated it was Traffic Division recommendation to not approve the request based on the parking study.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the recommendation of the Traffic Div. regarding Wheeler Woods – Wheeler Farm Rd/East Rutland Rd.

Attny. Hollister, representing the developer stated there is a traffic study that has been on file with the city since 1/15. He emphasized the emergency access road will not be open and will be used for emergencies only. Also, the light on Wheelers Farm Rd will be reinstated. Further he stated any developer building apartments does not want insufficient parking and they have tried to come up with the right number of spaces. He explained parking counts are done late at night when most of the residents are home and it was felt the parking for this proposal has approximately 80 excess spaces and that includes parking for every use of the property.

Mr. Sullivan, Traffic Consultant, explained they have been studying these types of development for decades and began establishing traffic counts in this type of development in 2000-01. He stated he is extremely comfortable that any events at the clubhouse will have adequate parking and they have strong data to back that up.

Regarding E. Rutland Rd., Mr. Sullivan explained they have looked at the DOT criteria for intersections and this one falls far below the state requirement numbers. He added a traffic impact study was done and they did not feel this development would impact the traffic on E. Rutland. He stated he is very comfortable with the data used on these studies and is confident that the impact of this development is negligible.

Comm. Faruolo asked what emergency vehicles will use the lock gate.

Mr. Gilmore, Consulting Engineer, stated it can be used for any emergency vehicle adding he hopes it never has to be used since there is a very wide entrance route from Wheelers Farm Rd. He noted it was not the intention to use this as a primary easement to get into the site.

Comm. Wanosky referred to Milford's city ordinance requirements for this type of development and asked if the developer had approached the Board of Aldermen regarding possible ordinance change in order for the plan to comply.

Attny. Hollister stated they have applied to P & Z asking for permission to change the ratios and that request will be considered at the hearing scheduled for 6/16/15.

Chairman Smith stated this body does not have authority to overrule any city ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously to accept the recommendation of Traffic Division regarding Wheeler Woods (deny the request based on the parking study).

Comm. Jagoe noted this body has discussed traffic studies many times, however, the Traffic Div. staff are not traffic engineers and she felt the city should be asked to set aside funds for the Department to use in hiring a traffic engineer to assist with these types of decisions.

Chairman Smith stated the Commission would return to the order of the agenda at this point.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Resident – expressed appreciation for police funeral escort during the funeral of family member.
- Resident – expressed appreciation to the officers who assisted with the Chi Omega Formal
- Resident – expressed appreciation for the assistance of officer and dispatcher on 5/20/15 when they called in requesting a safety check of a member of St. Ann's Church who had not been seen at routine daily mass/events at church. He noted the dispatcher was courteous and the officer who responded to the call immediately went to the individual's home and found nothing out of the ordinary. The person who made the call was contacted shortly thereafter and was told the fellow parishioner was fine.
- So. Central Criminal Justice Administration – commended Capt. Brandon Marschner who served as a panelist at recent board examination for rank of Lieutenant.
- Chief Mello stated there were several letters received regarding the Wheeler Woods project and they will become part of the record of the meeting.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

a. Disposition of Unclaimed cash from Evidence in the amount of \$760.82 – Chief Mello recommended the donation of \$760.82 of unclaimed cash from evidence be placed in the donation account for the Awards Ceremony/Anniversary Celebration.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept the \$760.82 donation of unclaimed cash from evidence and place it in the donation account for the Awards Ceremony/Anniversary Celebration as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Donation of toys from Barnes & Noble – Chief Mello recommended the donation of 50 stuffed animals from Barnes & Noble to be placed in the police cars to be given to children at appropriate times.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept the donation of 50 stuffed animals from Barnes & Noble as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Donation from Richard Conine – Chief Mello recommended the \$2,000 donation from Richard Conine to be used to purchase a vest for canine.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept the \$2,000 donation from Richard Conine to be used to purchase a vest for a canine as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Donation from Grace Baptist Church – Chief Mello recommended the \$100 donation from Grace Baptist Church be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved from Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to accept the \$100 donation from Grace Baptist Church and place in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

e. Donation of \$250 from 2015 Citizens Academy graduates – Chief Mello recommended the \$250 donation from the 2015 Academy graduates be placed in the donation account which would continue to fund next year's Police Academy Program.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$250 donation from the 2015 Citizens Academy graduates to be placed in the donation account for continuation of the next Police Academy Program as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Donation from car seat inspection - \$20 – Chief Mello recommended the 2 \$10 donations for car seat inspections be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the 2 \$10 donations for car inspections and place those funds in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Donation of \$25.00 in memory of Tony Barone, a Milford resident – Chief Mello recommended the \$25 memorial donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$25 donation in memory of Tony Barone and place said funds in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

h. Consideration of July and August Police Commission meetings – Chief Mello stated in the past the Commission suspended the July meeting and scheduled an August meeting only if necessary. He recommended following that schedule again for July and August 2015.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Marrone to suspend the July 2015 meeting and schedule an August 2015 meeting only if necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

i. Safe Driving Awards for the following Officers: Sgt. C. Dunn, PFC J. Ballard, Off. S. Carney, Off. S. Degnan, Off. J. Dempsey, Off. R. Mahoney, Off. J. Salati and Off. D. Frith.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve the Chief's recommendation regarding safe driving awards to the following Officers: Sgt. C. Dunn, PFC J. Ballard, Off. S. Carney, Off. S. Degnan, Off. J. Dempsey, Off. R. Mahoney, Off. J. Salati and Off. D. Frith. Motion carried unanimously

j. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello stated the Police Academy graduation was held on 5/18/15 and he expressed gratitude to those who attended and to those who helped make it happen. He thanked Platt Tech for videography and Public Works for their assistance with the sound requirements at the Parsons Complex.

Also, Chief Mello noted the 2015 Citizen's Police Academy graduation took place on 5/20 and he thanked those who attended and also helped with the program.

On 5/29 a promotional ceremony was held and Chief Mello congratulated Capt. Dumas and Deputy Chief Rahn for their new rank.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chief Mello stated earlier that day he attended the Running Club graduation and he was pleased to acknowledge and thank Officer Compare and his wife who personally handled the expenses related to this program for youth since a grant offered in the past was not received this year.

Lastly, Chief Mello stated contract negotiations with police and fire dispatchers are ongoing.

Comm. Jagoe thanked Chief Mello for the opportunity to allow high school students to participate in the Citizens Police Academy Program, specifically her grandson who was thankful for such a great opportunity.

Chief Mello explained students came with a teacher or administrator and the goal next year is to run a youth program and an adult program.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

a. Wheeler Woods – Wheelers Farm/East Rutland Rd (tabled from last month) – previously considered.

b. Schoolhouse Road – Storage Unit Facility – It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding Schoolhouse Road – Storage Unit Facility. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Beachshore Village – Joy Rd/30 East Broadway – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding Beachshore Village – Joy Rd/30 East Broadway. Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe 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 - none

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Traffic Study – Evaluation of control signal – Naugatuck/Baldwin – It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept report from Traffic Division regarding Evaluation of control signal at Naugatuck/Baldwin. Motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMENDATIONS - none

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

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 8:08 p.m. for the following:

- a. 3rd quarter review for 2 Probationary Officers.
- b. Final probationary review for 7 Officers.
- c. Grievance#2-2015 at step #3.

Chief Mello, Deputy Chief 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 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to accept Chief Mello's recommendation regarding:

- a. 3rd quarter review for 2 Probationary Officers.
- b. Final probationary review for 7 Officers.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to deny Grievance #2 – 2015 at Step #3. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, June 10, 2015