

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016– 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Carol Faruolo, Sharon Marrone, David Rubenstein, Richard Smith, Jerold Wanosky

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Alberta Jagoe

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Rahn; Ald. Vetro, E. Mead, P & Z Liaison, D. Candido, Secty.

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

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS – none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Chairman Smith took the opportunity to introduce Mr. Sutton who recently relocated to Milford; however had served several years as a police commissioner in New Canaan.
- Ald. Vetro thanked Chief Mello for providing the opportunity for several officers to attend a recent aldermanic meeting at which time they shared information on our department's SRO Program.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- J. Corolla & family – thank you to Officer Rivera for his support and kindness to a family member involved in an accident. Chief Mello added the thank you included a gift certificate for the Officer; however it was returned to the sender since the department does not accept gifts specified for an individual.
- Woodruff Family YMCA – thanked the department for assisting with the recent Healthy Kids Day which was a successful event held on 4/30/16.
- Milford Police Retirees – note of appreciation

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

- a. Informational: Det. Richard Frawley has retired effective 5/20/16 – Chief Mello stated Det. Frawley is well respected throughout the country due to his knowledge and experience with computer forensics.
- b. Informational: Det. Christopher Musante has retired effective 5/27/16 – Det. Musante was the department's Arson Investigator.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016– 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

c. Informational: PFC James Kiely will retire effective 7/2/16 – Officer Kiely, SRO at Jonathan Law High School; Chief Mello assured the members that an officer will be trained and ready to accept the responsibility at JLHS when school reopens in August.

d. Donation from Citizens Police Academy.- Chief Mello stated a \$600 donation had been received from the alumni of the Citizens Police Academy and he recommended that donation be placed in a donation account for future Citizens Police Academy programs.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept the \$600 donation from the Citizens Police Academy alumni and place said funds in a donation account for future Citizens Police Academy programs. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Donation from Student Citizens Police Academy - \$60 donation from the Students Citizens Police Academy and Chief recommended those funds be placed in a donation account for future Citizens Police Academy programs

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the \$60 donation from the Students Citizens Police Academy and place said funds in a donation account for future Citizens Police Academy Programs. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Donation from Car Seat Inspection – Chief Mello stated a \$4 donation had been received at a car seat inspection program and he recommended such funds be place in the DARE donation account.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept the \$4 donation received at a car seat inspection program and place said funds in the DARE donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Off Duty Weapon request for Det./Sgt. Henry Chacon, PFC M. DeVito, PFC Magnan. - Chief Mello recommended approval of Off Duty Weapon request by Det./Sgt. Henry Chacon, PFC M. DeVito, PFC Magnan for non-law enforcement reasons.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Off Duty weapon requests for Det./Sgt. Henry Chacon, PFC M. DeVito, PFC Magnan for non-law enforcement reasons. Motion carried unanimously.

h. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello thanked the commissioners for their attendance at the recent Citizens Police Academy Graduation and the Recruit Graduation. He also thanked the alumni of the Citizens Police Academy for their assistance with the programs. Chief Mello thanked the AV Dept at Platt Tech for their assistance and the time they spent over a two-day period with the audio visual and picture taking at the ceremony.

Discussion ensued regarding the process followed when anticipating the departure of an officer and having a back up personnel to fill that vacancy.

Chrmn. Smith provided an update on the Police Station Building Committee progress noting the committee will be meeting on 6/14/16. He explained the committee is now considering

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016– 7:00 P.M.

STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

building on the existing site and are at the point where members feel it is time to move forward with this decision. He stated at the upcoming meeting the committee will ask the architect to lay out schematics which hopefully can be done by August. Chrmn. Smith also noted the committee is still in favor of visiting the facility in Danbury which had been designed and built by the architect Milford is working with.

Both Chrmn. Smith and Chief Mello felt it is in the best interest to visit other facilities once the schematic for our building is received.

Chief Mello noted in the future he will be providing the commissioners with an additional report regarding citizen police complaints which will not include parking ticket complaints.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

- a. Motorcycle Repair Facility – 27 Eastern Steel Rd – it was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Division recommendation regarding Motorcycle Repair Facility – 27 Eastern Steel Rd. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Residential Development –Affordable Housing – 214-224 Seaside Ave (resubmission) – it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve Traffic Division recommendation regarding Residential Development –Affordable Housing – 214-224 Seaside Ave (resubmission). Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Addition of Residential 2nd floor to One-Story Building – 395-405 Boston Post Rd – informational; no action necessary.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo 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. Donation from Carrubba (\$1500) – It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to remove from the table the Donation from Carrubba (\$1500). Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mello explained he requested this donation be tabled last month as he wanted the opportunity to see where a donation of this size would be needed within the department. He recommended said donation be placed in the K-9 donation account for the purchase of future K-9's.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the donation of \$1500 from Carubba and place said funds in the K-9 donation account for the purchase of future K-9's. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016– 7:00 P.M.
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10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Crosswalk request – 325 SubWay (formerly Bic Drive) – it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to approve Traffic Division recommendation for the crosswalk request – 325 SubWay (formerly Bic Drive).

Chrmn. Smith explained that Public Works is working with a private company on this project and Subway will defray some of the cost involved for either lighting or signals at this crosswalk.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMENDATIONS – Deputy Chief Rahn presented the following information noting item a and b were part of the same investigation:

a. Certificate of Commendation for 5 Officers(case#2016001943) and b. Unit Citation for 6 officers (case #2016001943) – incident occurred on 4/16/16 at which time Officers Todice and St. Germain were dispatched to a car fire on I-95 and the person reporting the fire saw a hand gun in the vehicle. When they arrived at the scene, the car was not on fire but had been involved in an accident. While at the scene, a dispatched report of a stolen vehicle not far from the abandoned car on the on the interstate was received and Officers Hilliard and St. Germain responded. While officers were investigating that matter, a report of two males who car jacked a female driver at gun point a short distance away was received. The stolen vehicle was then involved in an accident and Officer Todice who was at the original scene saw the crash of the stolen vehicle and also saw two black male suspects running into the nearby wooded area. Lt. Rojee also responded and reported where the two suspects were running. Officers Goldfuss, St. Germain, Milslagle and Groves got to the area quickly. Area residents called Milford Police Dispatch while Dispatcher Harris and Officer Mazzara fielded those calls. The two males engaged the officers in a foot pursuit and were subsequently caught by the four officers. While the pursuit was ongoing, Officer Eddy stayed with the car jack victim making her feel calm and safe. Officer Hilliard worked with the State Police and Sgt. McNemar coordinated the different crash scenes.

Based on the above information Certificate of Commendations were given to Officers Goldfuss, Groves, Milslagle, St. Germain, Lt. Rojee. Unit Citations were also given to Officers Hilliard, McNemar, Mazzara, Dispatcher Harris, Officers Eddy and Todice.

c. Certificate of Commendation for 2 Officers (case#2016001770) – incident occurring on 4/6/16 at which time Pfc Knablin and Officer Dubrow were dispatched to 94 Yale Avenue where they found an unconscious female. Pfc Knablin began chest compressions on the female who soon began to breath. She was transported to Milford Hospital for further treatment. Based on this information, Pfc Knablin and Officer Dubrow were given a Certificate of Commendation.

Chief Mello asked to go back in the agenda to item 6h – Chief's General Comments and he updated the members with regard to Grievance #2-2015. He provided brief history of the grievance and reported the grievance had been settled.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION - none

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
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Being no further business, it was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, June 14, 2016