

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Giles called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

**1. ROLL CALL**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami; Melvin Eisenhandler; Carol Faruolo; Carlton Giles; Alberta Jagoe; Sharon Marrone

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Fournier; Capt. T. Mooney; Capt. E. Shea; L. Stock, Secty; J. Toohey, Board of Aldermen; P. Vetro, Board of Aldermen

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS**

None

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Greg Field, 296 LLC, representing 282 West Main Street, stated he spoke with Sgt. Sharoh and met him at the subject site. He displayed plans of the 2 lot subdivision, noting that Sgt. Sharoh was not in favor of the plan. Mr. Field stated that today, they cut all the brush and trees and they set up where the driveways would be located and they could see 250' in both directions. They improved the site lines of the subdivision driveways as well as the site lines for 258, 282, 290 and 287 West Main Street. Mr. Field explained that "by right" they are allowed to build one dwelling at the site; however they are only asking for one other lot, one more driveway. He continued, noting that Sgt. Sharoh contacted Public Works to erect 20 MPH speed limit signs in the area as there have been 13 accidents there in the past two years; however, in his report, he referred to a speed limit of 25 MPH. These new signs are intended to slow traffic down. Mr. Field questioned the difference in visibility between the two speed limits.

Chrmn. Giles asked if they had met with Sgt. Sharoh after these changes were made to which Mr. Field responded that the Sergeant was not in, so they could not speak with him before the meeting. Mr. Field asked that the item (7a) be tabled until he has an opportunity to speak and meet again with Sgt. Sharoh at the site.

Chief Mello explained that 20 MPH is only advisory.

Continuing, Mr. Field stated that if they push the driveways into the apex further, the site line would increase even more. He stated there are many other houses in that area that also back out of their driveways.

Nathan Kirschner, Project Engineer for Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. of Middletown, stated he was present regarding the Chase Bank project at 1651 Boston Post Road that had been tabled at last month's meeting. He noted that the comments previously submitted by Sgt. Sharoh conflicted with the comments made by the Fire Marshall. Mr.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Kirschner stated they spoke with the Fire Marshall and then responded to Sgt. Sharoh's comments. Sgt. Sharoh, via e-mail, commented back that he would recommend approval to the Commission for the submitted plans. Mr. Kirschner submitted the correspondence from both the Fire Marshall and Sgt. Sharoh.

Phil Vetro, Alderman, wished to personally thank the Department for keeping an eye on the Point Beach Club House, of which he is the principal. Apparently some renters left the doors open and the police contacted him so that he could secure the building.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was moved by Comm. Eisenhandler and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2009 meeting. The motion carried unanimously with no discussion.

Chrmn. Giles entertained a motion to re-order the agenda to discuss item 9a – Chase Bank, 1651 Boston Post Road and note it as item 4a. The motion was so made by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe, seconded by Comm. Faruolo and carried unanimously.

a. Chase Bank – 1651 Boston Post Road (unfinished business)

Chrmn. Giles noted that the proposal was in the Commissioners' packets. Chief Mello explained it was a late submission that needed to be signed. In response to Comm. Bergami, the Chief stated it was the report dated August 5, 2009.

Comm. Bergami moved to accept the report as presented. The motion carried unanimously after a second by Comm. Faruolo.

Chrmn. Giles informed the members that what they asked for at last month's meeting was confirmed.

**5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

The following was noted by Chief Mello:

A thank you card was received from Barbara Walker, who thanked the Department for their help with Harold Walker.

A letter was received from Art Raslavsky thanking Off. Ospina and Off. Knablin for their assistance during inclement weather, in locating his car in a parking lot.

Pet Protectors, an animal rescue foundation, sent a letter thanking Off. Lima and Canine Judge for their demonstration at a recent fund raiser.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

The Laurel Beach Association sent a letter commending the Department for the automated telephone system, for which they have received much positive feedback. The system put the residents' minds at ease that there is not a major crime wave in this area, in lieu of a rash of vehicular break ins. The system provides information to the residents; heightens awareness of the citizens in order for them to assist the Department when necessary. They are look forward to a successful partnership with the Department in the future.

Fire Dept. Chief LaVecchia sent a letter of thanks to the Department for their assistance in getting the residents of 38 West River Street to safety in a timely manner during a fire at the building on July 25, 2009. They were quick to respond to the Fire Department's need for help.

The U.S. Coast Guard sent a letter thanking the Department for participating in their open house.

Milford Harbor Duck Race sent a thank you to the Department for their support of the duck race fund raiser on May 3, 2009.

Kabria Gray sent a letter of apology for her inappropriate behavior during her arrest.

Warden Ed Bonessi of the Borough of Woodmont, sent a letter noting they have enjoyed a positive experience with the Department in hiring off duty officers to patrol in the Woodmont area. He thanked them for their professionalism and for all that they do to keep the city safe.

A letter was received from Carol Klingele, President, Wildemere Beach Association, thanking Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Fournier, Capt. Shea, Sgt. Walsh and Off. Dumas, for meeting with the association and addressing issues head on. They will pursue a neighborhood block watch.

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

**a. Donation of \$1,000 from Wildemere Beach Association**

It was noted by Chief Mello that he met with both the Walnut Beach and Wildemere Beach Associations on separate occasions. Each association represents approximately 350 families who are concerned with the lack of police resources in the area. They discussed creative ways to increase vigilance, set up a neighborhood block watch as well as a camera system in the area. They would like the Department to focus in that area and the Wildemere Beach Association asked what they could do to help.

The Chief explained that they have received two JAG grants and they are also accepting donations from groups and individuals for the camera system. Thus the

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

\$1,000 donation from the general fund of the Wildemere Beach Association to be used toward the purchase of the camera system.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe, seconded by Comm. Faruolo and unanimously carried to accept this donation.

- b. Donation of \$1,000 from Thomas and Shelley Bach

Chief Mello explained that likewise, Mr. and Mrs. Bach are also donating \$1,000 for this equipment. They thanked the Chief for attending the meeting and they believe the camera will improve the safety in the area.

A motion to accept this donation carried unanimously after being made by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe.

In response to Chrmn. Giles, Chief Mello noted that they did receive the grants and now the Board of Aldermen has to accept the funds, which will be received approximately next spring and then it will take several months to implement the system. They do have a new vendor for this equipment.

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

- a. 282 West Main St. – Parcel B Proposed Subdivision

Chrmn. Giles noted that additional work had been done and he believes this should be referred back to the Traffic Division. Comm. Faruolo stated she had visited the site previously and would like to visit it once again now that the brush has been removed.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe to table this item. The motion was seconded by Comm. Faruolo and unanimously carried.

**8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

Chrmn. Giles noted that the Uniform Crime Report was on the table for review. The other reports were in the packets.

- a. Uniform Crime Report
- b. Youth Bureau Report
- c. Crime Prevention Services Report
- d. Detective Bureau Cases Report
- e. General Highway Safety Summary

Comm. Faruolo moved to accept reports “a” through “e.” The motion carried unanimously after a second by Comm. Bergami.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Chase Bank – 1651 Boston Post Road (reordered to item 4a)

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Traffic Study – Bayshore at Odell Ave. – Safety Issues

Chrmn. Giles noted that this report was on the table.

Vice Chrmn. Jagoe moved to accept the recommendation of the Traffic Division. The motion was seconded by Comm. Marrone and unanimously carried.

**11. COMMENDATIONS**

- a. Unit Citation

Deputy Chief Fournier noted that the midnight shift did a “great job.” There was an armed robbery in Stratford where the suspects fled in a stolen motor vehicle. This resulted in a pursuit through Milford and Orange, where the vehicle obtained a flat tire. The suspects were apprehended and taken into custody. The actions of the following are to be commended: Offs. Doyle, Dunn, Senatore, Simpson, Mazzara, Gallagher, Sgt. Burton, Lt. Darby, Off. Bethke, Dispatcher Harris.

At 7:30 P.M., Vice Chrmn. Jagoe moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following items. The motion was seconded by Comm. Faruolo and carried unanimously by roll call vote. Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Fournier were asked to remain.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE ON MATTERS CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION AND HEALTH OR DISMISSAL OF DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES**

- a. Probationary Reviews: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter review for the following Officers: Vincent Senatore, Sean Degnan, Gary McDonnell, Matthew Mello, Michael Cruz, Richard Pisani, Garon Delmonte and Emily Sopchak
- b. Consideration of the performance of 1 employee.
- c. Consideration of termination of 1 employee.

The Commission left Executive Session at 8:52 P.M., at which time Vice Chrmn. Jagoe noted that Chrmn. Giles recused himself from item 12c, left the room and was not involved in this issue.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Vice Chrmn. Jagoe moved to uphold the position of the Chief of Police regarding the consideration of the performance of one employee. The motion was seconded by Comm. Bergami and carried unanimously with no discussion.

Regarding item 12c, Comm. Bergami moved to accept the recommendation of the Chief and vote for the dismissal of one employee. The motion was seconded by Comm. Eisenhandler and carried with no discussion.

Comm. Bergami moved to adjourn at 8:55 P.M. The motion carried unanimously after a second by Comm. Faruolo.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Linda Stock, Secretary