

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

**1. ROLL CALL**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Carol Faruolo, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, Richard Smith, Jerold Wanosky

COMMISSIONER NOT PRESENT: Melvin Eisenhandler

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Mooney; Lt. Dumas; Ald. Vetro; D. Candido, Secty.

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

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none**

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Discussion ensued regarding how the residents in the west shore area felt about having a police substation located at the former Simon Lake School.
- Ald. Vetro – stated he has continued to receive phone calls regarding traffic accident clean up, specifically picking up the debris after an accident site is cleared.

Chief Mello thanked Ald. Vetro for bringing that concern forward and he stated he will follow up on the matter within the department and with Public Works with regard to their responsibility to such an incident.

Ald. Vetro directed comments to the removal of a tree on Welch's Point Road noting the tree which was obstructing a line of sight had been discussed many times by this Commission; however he felt that possibly the wrong tree was removed. Ald. Vetro suggested possibly trimming the lower branches on the remaining tree and not cutting the entire tree.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2012 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Wanosky welcomed Comm. Smith to the Commission and also took the opportunity to thank former Comm. Candido for his years of service on this commission and wished him well.

Chairman Jagoe echoed those comments on behalf of the Commission.

Chief Mello stated he has had an opportunity to meet with Comm. Smith prior to tonight's meeting and looks forward to working with him in the future.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

**5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Family of Marjorie Gabruszewski – sent note of thanks to the Milford Police Dept. for the funeral escort and traffic assistance at mother's funeral.
- Cindy Saccione – resident – thanked Officer Tomaselli for his assistance with regard to a recent incident, noting Officer Tomaselli's level of patience, understanding and help with the matter went above and beyond. She thanked Officer Tomaselli for his professionalism.
- Louis Elmo – resident – thanked Officer Tomaselli for his assistance in a matter involving an invalid check noting his prompt and efficient ability makes him a credit to the Milford Police Dept.
- Mark Hansen – Pond Point Ave. – noted he recently called to file a complaint regarding a loose dog who had been barking all night and he was appreciative of the department's quick response to this matter.
- Dr. & Mrs. Ameti – thanked Officer Kiely who responded to their call regarding a stolen cell phone. Officer Kiely's efficient and excellent investigative work with following up on the matter resulted in recovery of their personal property which included valuable stored photos which were priceless and irreplaceable.. Further noting that Officer Kiely is a great example of true professionalism.
- Chief Kevin Hale – Ansonia Police Dept. – thanked Chief Mello for the department's assistance with an early morning raid on 6/1/2012; further this raid was the culmination of a 6-month investigation in which the department seized narcotics, weapons and money and collectively sent a strong message to the drug dealers and citizens that their department will not tolerate illegal narcotic trade and the violence that goes with it. Chief Hale noted this feat could not have been accomplished without the assistance of the Milford Police Dept.
- Raymond Vitali, Chairman Ride for Hope event – thanked the department for their assistance with the 2012 Ride for Hope event noting the funds raised at this event will benefit many of the United Way agencies.
- Douglas Dortenzio, Chief, Wallingford Police Dept. – wrote on behalf of CPCA thanking Chief Mello for his participation in the search and selection process for Groton, CT police chief.
- Kathy Shugrue – resident – thanked Officer Rahn for arranging to have Officer Frey speak to a local Daisy Brownie Troop and noting how much the troop members enjoyed their time with Officer Frey.
- Debbie Fleischer – resident – wrote on behalf of the Fleischer family expressing their thanks to Officer Pecoraro and Weymer who responded to theft of personal property noting the officers were truly skilled, polite, kind and concerned.

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

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to add item 6g. Review of the denial of the vending permit for Richard Anderson to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to add item 12d Performance of 1 employee to the Executive Session portion of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

a. Donation to DARE program for \$1,000 (anonymous) – Chief Mello explained the DARE account had been cut \$1,000 as a result of this year's budget. He added the department had anticipated having to cut two classes for the upcoming school year and with this donation, it would provide the opportunity to maintain the same level of that program as had been offered in the past. Chief Mello recommended acceptance of the donation and applying the \$1,000 anonymous donation to the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to uphold Chief Mello's recommendation to accept the \$1,000 anonymous donation and apply those funds to the DARE account. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Donation from Dorothy Downie - It was recommended by Chief Mello to accept the donation from Dorothy Downie and apply those funds to the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to uphold Chief Mello's recommendation to accept the donation from Dorothy Downie and apply those funds to the DARE account. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Informational: Lt. Sean Darby, Sgt. Patrick Tierney, Detective Arthur Huggins and Sgt. Robert Riordan have retired effective 6/29/12. It was explained by Chief Mello that the department had promoted approximately 15 people in a one year period and he noted he was happy and proud to say that the department is a great group of people who have stepped up to replace valued staff members as the retirees listed. He further noted the department had not replaced all officers at the patrolman level but are anticipating taking on a lateral transfer from another department who Chief Mello felt was a strong candidate.

d. Donation from Bonnie Currier – Chief Mello explained Bonnie Currier made a \$30 donation at a recent car seat clinic which Officer Gallagher conducted. Motion was made by Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$30 donation from Bonnie Currier and apply to the DARE fund as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Off Duty Weapon Authorization – Off. Tyrone Dancy – Chief Mello explained Officer Dancy has requested to carry his personal weapon off duty. Chief Mello reminded the commissioners that the weapon must be certified by the police department and approved by this body. Chief Mello stated the weapon has qualified and is in good working order.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve Off Duty Weapon Authorization to Officer Tyrone Dancy. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Safe Driving Awards to the following Officers : Lt. W. Cable, Lt. S. Moore, Sgt. J. Burton, Off. J. DeStefano, Off. C. Lacey, Off. S. Owens, Off. K. Ruggiero - It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to award eight hours of comp time for an

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

accumulation of 12,000 safe driving miles with no safety violations to the officers noted. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Review of the denial of the vending permit for Richard Anderson – Lt. Dumas explained in January 2012, Richard Anderson applied for a vending permit with the city. Lt. Dumas noted Mr. Anderson had previous arrests for assault and striking an individual and based on those facts, it was the decision of the Department to deny his request to vend in the city deeming Mr. Anderson unsafe. Lt. Dumas added Mr. Anderson sells ice cream at playgrounds and parks and it was felt that his previous behavior and arrests should prohibit him from vending at this time.

Chief Mello explained Mr. Anderson's attorney has appealed the denial of the permit and he added he supports the findings of the investigation to not approve this person's vending permit.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to deny the vending permit for Richard Anderson as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

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

a. 2 lot subdivision – 28 Tower St – Vice Chrmn. Bergami recused himself from discussion and voting on this matter. It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve the Traffic Div. recommendation and approve 2 lot subdivision – 28 Tower St. Motion carried with Comm. Bergami recusing himself due to relationship to owner.

b. Tri State Diesel Addendum Report – 312 Woodmont Rd. – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation and approve Tri State Diesel Addendum Report – 312 Woodmont Rd. Motion carried unanimously.

c. 141-159 Merwin Ave. – Affordable Housing Project – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding 141-159 Merwin Ave. – Affordable Housing Project emphasizing approval is granted with the stipulation included in the report. Motion carried unanimously.

d. 25-27 High St. – Mixed Use Development – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve Traffic Div. recommendation and approve 25-27 High St. – Mixed Use Development. The plan was briefly discussed noting the existing building will undergo significant construction and changes. Motion carried unanimously.

e. 1574 Boston Post Rd. – PC Richards Tent Sale – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation and approve 1574 Boston Post Rd. – PC Richards Tent Sale. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe noted the reports of items a, b, c and d were included in the Commissioners packets.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve the following reports for June 2012 and July 2012. .

- a. Uniform Crime Report
- b. Special Investigations Unit Report
- c. Crime Prevention Services Report
- d. Traffic Division & Licensing Unit Report

Comm. Wanosky asked if there had been any further discussion regarding the collection of fines coming back to the Police Dept. budget and Chief Mello stated he has always advocated to have the fines come back to the department but they have always gone back to the General Fund and he stated he would be addressing this matter again at the appropriate time.

Comm. Faruolo questioned the pistol permitting and asked if there had been an increase in those permits and she was told yes.

Chief Mello also noted the report of Special Investigations Unit for July should reflect Total July arrests and not June arrests.

Motion carried unanimously

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the recommendation of the Traffic Division regarding:

- a. Speeding vehicles complaint – Dock Road – Marcia Kupson
- b. No Parking signs request – Quirk Rd/Chelsea Circle – Bill Martelas
- c. Stop Sign Request – Botsford/Stoval St. – Richard Golubowicz
- d. Stop Sign Request – Depot Rd/Downs Way/Vermont Ave – Sara Domena

Motion carried unanimously.

**11. COMMENDATIONS - none**

**12. Executive Session**

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

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, August 13, 2012  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. for the following matters:

- a. Consideration of the performance of 2 employees.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter probationary review for Officer John Ballard
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter probationary review for Officer Noel Luth
- d. Performance of 1 employee

All Commissioners present, Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Mooney remained in Executive Session.

[Note: Lt. Dumas, Ald. Vetro, and members of the public left at 7:22 p.m.)

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to reconvene in public session at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to uphold Chief Mello's discipline. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Candido, Secretary