

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 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; S. Marrone;

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Fournier, D. Candido, Secty; P. Vetro, Board of Aldermen

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ald. Vetro expressed his concern regarding the lights exiting the shopping center on Cherry Street noting that after midnight the lights are not adjusted to blinking. Chief Mello stated he will have the Traffic Division look into it and have that corrected.

Ald. Vetro directed comments to the area on Brewster Road (Watrous Lane) near the baseball fields; specifically the need for additional "No Parking" signs since there has been an addition of another field. Chief Mello will refer this to the Traffic Division and if necessary conduct a study regarding the need for additional signage.

Ald. Vetro referred back to a previous conversation with this Commission regarding a trailer/truck that is consistently parked on Dixon Street. He suggested the possibility of putting up signage indicating one hour parking area and that perhaps would take care of the problem of this vehicle parking there continuously.

Chief Mello stated he will review the file on this matter and if necessary bring such a recommendation forward to the Commission to act on.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

The following was noted by Chief Mello:

A letter was received from Police Chief Wydra, Hamden Police Department, acknowledging and thanking our Department, specifically Officers Localzo and Demerjian, for their assistance during the funeral motorcade on October 6, 2009 for U.S. Army Capt. Benjamin Sklaver.

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An email was received from the Christine Honcz of the Milford Coop Preschool in appreciation for the canine officers and demo recently held at the school

A letter was received from Police Chief Gallo, East Haven Police Department, acknowledging and thanking Officer Rojee and his K-9 Vadir for a job well done and their professional assistance in the pursuit of a burglary suspect which ended using proper tactics and the suspect positively identified.

A letter was read from Charles Sherwood, Sc.D. Director of the Central Criminal Justice Association who expressed his gratitude for allowing Officer Cortes to serve as a panelist at the recently completed board examination for the position of Recruit Police Officer.

Denise Morris-Curt sent a letter of appreciation for the police officers who worked at her recent art show on the Green. She acknowledged Officers Bethke, Beauvais, Robbins, Connor, Kiely and DeStefano for providing security both during the day while the show was going on and at night when the vendors had secured their wares and left for the day.

A letter was read from Tom Jagodzinski, Chairman of the Republican Town Committee. The letter included a check in the amount of \$570 to be applied to the cost of the Surveillance Camera Project at Wildemere Beach. Mr. Jagodzinski noted that security is an important matter for our city and the surveillance camera will be a valuable tool to maintain that security.

A letter was read from Chief Gagne of the Orange Police Services, thanking Officer Taylor and his K-9 Noble for their participation in the police K-9 demonstration at the town's recent annual country fair.

A letter was read from Boys & Girls Village thanking the Milford Police Department for its participation in the previous successful road race fundraiser. The letter stated the race will take place again on October 25, 2009 and the assistance of our officers is needed again to help make the day successful.

A letter was read from David Conroy, Grand Knight of the Milford Knights of Columbus, thanking the officers in our department who worked at the recent carnival and assisted with the July Charity Run Motorcade.

James Kiely sent a letter of appreciation to the Police Dept. for taking the time to interact with the Wildemere Beach Association and addressing the issue of speeding on Broadway.

Chairman Giles thanked Chief Mello for the reading of the correspondence.

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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to add to the agenda under item 6 b. Acceptance of Donation from the Republican Town Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

a. Donation from Mrs. Irmagard Carbonelli

Chief Mello explained that on September 29, 2009, Mrs. Carbonelli presented a \$100 check donation for services of the Police Department. Chief Mello explained to Mrs. Carbonelli that such a donation is not necessary since the officers were acting in their line of duty; however, Mrs. Carbonelli was very emotional and wanted to make the donation. After researching the incident, Chief Mello learned the officers responded to a theft complaint at her home earlier in September when someone broke into her home while she was sleeping and took her purse.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Bergami to accept the donation from Mrs. Irmagard Carbonelli in the amount of \$100 and apply those funds to the DARE Program Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Donation from the Republican Town Committee

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the donation from the Republican Town Committee in the amount of \$570 to be applied to the camera surveillance project at Wildemere Beach. The motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS - none

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

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

Chrmn. Giles noted these reports were included in the Commissioners packets.

It was moved by Comm. Eisenhandler and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept reports "a" through "e" as presented.

Comm. Faruolo questioned the number of injuries listed in the General Highway Safety Summary (246 injuries) and asked if that was the actual number or could it be a typographical error. Chief Mello stated he will look into that and see if that number is accurate.

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Vice Chrmn. Jagoe referred to the Youth Bureau Report, specifically the two juveniles who were referred to court and the long list of charges for each of them. She asked if the two were working together and Chief Mello explained the two juveniles had stolen identity (credit cards) and had used them at the Mall. He stated they were working together.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Signage Issues – 1 Merwin Avenue through 16 Abigail Street

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the Traffic Division recommendation regarding 1 Merwin Avenue through 16 Abigail Street.

Comm. Faruolo questioned the parking ticket appeals and asked what would happen if an individual fills out the appeal form. Chief Mello explained the protocol followed and added if for some reason a No Parking sign was obscured or faded, the ticket money would be returned to the individual.

The motion carried unanimously.

b. Speeding Vehicles (Radar Enforcement) – Grant Street

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the recommendation of the Traffic Division regarding Speeding Vehicles (Radar Enforcement) – Grant Street.

Comm. Faruolo questioned how this matter came forward and it was explained by Chief Mello that Ald. Manning had brought the speeding matter forward. Subsequently a study was done to determine whether or not it was necessary to change the speed limit in the area.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMENDATIONS

Deputy Chief Fournier noted that a Unit Citation is recommended for Officers Bethke, Doerr, Gallagher, Todice, Weymer. He reported that on August 18, 2009 the East Haven Police Department put out a broadcast for a burglary suspect and vehicle used by the suspects. Subsequently, Officer Bethke observed the wanted vehicle exit I-95 at Exit 39. The officers noted made a stop of this vehicle and the subject was taken into custody.

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At 7:27 P.M., it was moved by Vice Chrmn. Jagoe, seconded by Comm. Bergami and carried by roll call vote to enter into Executive Session to discuss the consideration of sick time hardship for one employee and consideration of the performance of two employees. 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: 1st Quarter Review for Officers Richard Mahoney and Christopher Lennon.

The Commission left Executive Session at 7:40 P.M.

Vice Chrmn. Jagoe moved to adjourn at 7:41 P.M. The motion was seconded by Comm. Faruolo and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Candido, Secretary