

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:01 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; 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

- E. Mead – P & Z Liaison – congratulated Ald. Vetro on his recent re-election to the Board of Aldermen; stated he too had been re-elected to P & Z but he was not sure if he would continue as liaison to this Commission. Informed members the Irish Heritage Society is hoping to receive their CO within the week.
- J. Carissimi – 64 Kirkside Ave. – extended congratulations to those elected officials recently elected or re-elected. Stated he and his wife were part of the Steering Committee for the Pumpkins on the Pier event held last month. He thanked the Department for providing officers for the day, specifically Officer Dempsey who is so well-liked by the public. He acknowledged the assistance of the Citizens Police Academy 19 volunteers who worked 3 shifts during the course of the day helping to make the event the big success that it was for the Boys & Girls Club. Also took the opportunity to compliment Milford's "pink car" which was used by the Department during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- Ald. Vetro – directed comments to a school bus stop safety issue at the intersection of Lance Lane and Pond Point Avenue noting that parents are concerned about the students having to cross this heavily traveled road to get across to the bus stop and they are inquiring about the possibility of a crosswalk at this intersection.

Chief Mello explained there is a crosswalk within a short distance from this intersection and the Department does not agree with having cross walks placed that close in proximity. He explained the nearby crosswalk at Pond Point and Baxter Lane also has a crossing guard. Chief Mello suggested bringing this matter to the attention of the Board of Education for a possible relocation of this particular bus stop. He stated he would have the area looked at and review the safety matter.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried with Mrs. Faruolo abstaining as she was not present at the meeting.

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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to reorder the agenda to bring Executive Session to this point in the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. for the following matter:

Consideration of Report of Chief of Police on matters concerning the Appointment, Employment, Performance, Evaluation, Health, or Dismissal of Department Employees.

a. 1st Quarter review for 6 Probationary Officers.

Included in Executive Session were the Commissioners present, Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Rahn and Officer Bruno.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Vice Chrmn Bergami to reconvene in public session at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

No action necessary.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to add to the agenda item a presentation by the Department's SRO's. Motion carried unanimously.

All present relocated to the Training Room for a presentation of the 2014-15 Annual Report and accomplishments of the SRO Program.

The business of the meeting continued at 8:02 p.m.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- K. Morin – Teacher Leader, Meadowside School – thanked Det. Frawley for his presentation to the students, acknowledging his professionalism and respect.
- Hometown Foundation – Cheshire, CT – expressed appreciation for partnering efforts in the recent Dream Ride which supports and benefits Special Olympics.
- A. Michelson – resident – commended Officer Goldfuss who was dispatched to a family situation and displayed a professional and caring attitude to family members.
- Thomas J. McLoughlin, Chief of Police, North Haven – thanked the department for their assistance in recent oral board exams for future police officers.
- Hazel Paolillo – resident – commended Officer Cox who handled the theft of her purse at a local store. Commended the officer for his exemplary actions and professionalism.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation – thanked Officer Lennon for his contribution over the past year in an investigation.
- Parents at Orange Avenue School – on behalf of the students and teachers at the school, thanked the officers for assisting with the recent Trunk or Treat event.

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

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a. Consideration of Police Sick and Relief Fund – Chief Mello recommended rolling over this CD as in the past.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to uphold the Chief's recommendation regarding the Police Sick and Relief Fund and roll over the CD for 18 months. Motion carried with Vice Chrmn. Bergami abstaining from this vote due to his professional conflict as a board member of the financial institution.

b. Consideration of the 2016 Police Commission meeting dates – It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve the recommended 2016 Police Commission meeting dates. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Police Department Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 – Chief Mello took the opportunity to briefly highlight some of the items in the budget request. He explained a grant will be available for departments to purchase additional body cameras and included in that cost is the hardware and cloud storage costs which is very expensive. He explained initially the Department had purchased a small number of body cameras but with this new grant, it will become possible for every officer to have a camera. Chief further explained a newly developed policy which will dictate how the cameras are used by the departments adding there will be a good amount of data that each officer will be recording every day at every shift. He expressed his concern for the cost of the retention of this data from the camera which eventually the city would have to assume. As well Chief Mello explained the budget request includes an increase in video maintenance costs; 3 dispatchers; contractual increases in personnel costs; and the increase in overtime is based on what administration knows will be used.

d. \$150 donation from Catherine Ross – Chief Mello stated the donation from Catherine Ross was made to the Department in response to a false alarm and he recommended the donation money be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to place the \$150 donation from Catherine Ross in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

e. \$15.00 donation from car seat inspection – Chief Mello stated Christine Brown made a \$15 donation for a car seat inspection and he recommended the donation money be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to place the \$15 donation from Christine Brown for a car seat inspection in the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello stated an Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 11/21/15 at Costa Azzurra and all commissioners were invited.

Chief was pleased to report that 60 officers participated in the Physical Fitness Challenge and it was a great event for the Department.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

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a. Grillo Services – 533 West Ave – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding request of Grillo Services for 533 West Avenue.

Comm. Rubinstein expressed his concern regarding the proximity of this to the nearby elementary school and the truck traffic this business will be generating.

Chief Mello explained the Traffic Division would have considered all possibilities and had not noted any concerns.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Residential Development – 214-224 Seaside Ave – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept Traffic Division recommendation to reject the request for Residential Development at 214-224 Seaside Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Two lot Subdivision – 395 Orange Ave – It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding request for two lot Subdivision at 395 Orange Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Lock Up Storage Center – 417-421 Bridgeport Ave- It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding request for Lock Up Storage Center – 417-421 Bridgeport Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

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. Rotary donation of \$1500.00 – It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to remove from the table Rotary donation of \$1,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mello explained the donation amount from Rotary is changed to \$500 and he explained they were donating the \$1,500 to purchase body cameras but since the costs of those cameras will be covered by grant funding, it was suggested a donation be made to the Awards Ceremony in the amount of \$500.

It was moved by Comm. Rubinstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the \$500 donation from Rotary Club of Milford. Motion carried unanimously.

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b. No parking signs – 12 Milford Point Rd/Francis St – Revision – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding no parking signs – 12 Milford Point Rd/Francis St – Revision. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Supplemental Report for traffic study originally done 3/31/15 – Naugatuck/Bridgeport Ave – Request for advanced green – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubinstein to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding supplemental report for traffic study originally done 3/31/15 – Naugatuck/Bridgeport Ave.

Comm. Faruolo noted there is some concern regarding traffic backing up on Bridgeport Avenue and she questioned why they can't add more time to the green light.

Motion carried unanimously.

10. NEW BUSINESS - none

11. COMMENDATIONS – Deputy Chief Rahn shared the following:

a. Certificate of Commendation for 2 Officers - On 7/27/15 PFC Aquino and Officer Owens were dispatched to a situation involving an intoxicated female in possession of a knife and threatening harm to herself. PFC Aquino and Officer Owens were able to take possession of the knife and female was taken to the hospital.

b. Certification of Commendation for 8 Milford Police Officers and 9 Police Officers from East Providence Police Department – Peoples Bank robbery, 8/15/15, Det. Moreno, Det. Bassett and Det. Doyle investigated the robbery and were able to trace DNA located at the teller's counter, submitted that DNA to the state and based on that identified the suspect who lived in R.I. A plan was put into place to for our officers to work with East Providence Police Dept. and set up surveillance; it was the East Providence Police Dept who took the suspect into custody.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION – previously discussed.

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido

Submitted to City Clerk, November 10, 2015