

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017– 6:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, D. Candido, Secty.

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

1a. REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to nominate Comm. Smith as Chairman of the Milford Board of Police Commissioners

Being no further nominations to come forward, nominations were closed.

The secretary was asked to cast one ballot to elect Comm. Smith as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone and Comm. Wanosky to nominate Comm. Bergami as Vice Chair of the Milford Board of Police Commissioners.

Being no further nominations to come forward, nominations were closed.

The secretary was asked to cast one ballot to elect Comm. Bergami as Vice Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Chrmn. Smith thanked members for the honor of serving as Chair of this Commission and he also thanked them for their confidence and support. .

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS – none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

Chrmn. Smith took the opportunity to recognize Comm. Rubenstein who has recently been elected 2nd Vice President of the Police Commissioners Assoc. of CT and to Vice Chrmn. Bergami who was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the same association.

Chrmn. Smith also noted that this week has been designated National Law Enforcement Appreciation week and he thanked both Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Rahn for their leadership and also noted the pride of this Commission and the residents for our model police force.

On behalf of Mayor Blake, Chrmn. Smith read into the record a Mayoral Proclamation naming Monday, January 9, 2017 as National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day in Milford noting our Department is a full service law enforcement agency, ensuring everyone feels protected in their homes, work places and schools.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017– 6:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chief Mello thanked the Commission for their support and acknowledged their support noting they are truly engaged in the work of this Department and the safety of all in the city.

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 November 14, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried with Chrmn. Smith abstaining as he was not present at the 11/16 meeting.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Damien O'Connor – 63 Clark Hill Rd., Mfd. – referred to incident occurring on 11/10/16 at neighbor's home where one of the residents at that address had suddenly died. He acknowledged and thanked the officers who responded noting he was impressed with their professionalism and compassion. (Officers Eddy, Napolitano, Holder, Deida, Eddy, Beauvais, Barbour and Mahoney).
- Chief Stephen Clark – Newington Police Dept. – thanked Officers Hoff & Ness for their participation in the Annual Officer Peter Lavery Memorial Motorcycle Run.
- Individual who finds occasional shelter at Beth El – thanked Officers Eddy, Groves and Mills who responded to a disturbance at the shelter.
- Dom Juliano – resident – thanked Milford Police Dept. while waiting to be seated at a restaurant someone stole wife's wallet and ran out of the restaurant. He noted that although this was a minor incident compared to others, he acknowledged and thanked officers who responded noting they were professional and kind. (Officers Bodnar, Holder & Mahoney).
- Hearts of Hope, Mathewson School – letter explaining students have initiated Hearts of Hope program at Mathewson and those students were happy to send heart ornaments with special messages to each officer in the Department.
- Megan Altomare, Exec. Director – Boys & Girls Club – thanked the Department for their dedication and support of the Pumpkins on the Pier Event, as well as the assistance of the Citizens Police Academy.
- O'Connor & Sullivan Family – expressed gratitude for police escort at funeral of family member.

Chief Mello noted the gifts of food and packaged good and gift cards delivered to headquarters during the holiday season had never been that great in year's past. He added residents and businesses took the opportunity to voice their thanks and support to the Milford Police Dept.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

- a. Informational: Officer Daniel Bedeker will retire effective 2/10/17 – Chief Mello wished Officer Bedeker well adding Officer Bedeker, when possible, had been the bicycle patrol officer in downtown Milford and he will be missed by the Department.
- b. Bikes for Charity Event –request to donate unclaimed bicycles from evidence department to Maren Sanchez Peace, Love Charity event. Chief Mello explained the unclaimed bicycles have been sold in the past and the revenue from the sale of the equipment is recognized by the City. Chief Mello stated he did not have a definite idea as to what the value of these bicycles might be.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017– 6:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to donate the unclaimed bicycles from the evidence department to the Maren Sanchez Peace, Love Charity event.

Chrmn. Smith questioned if this could be considered a precedent being set and Chief Mello explained there are other groups and organizations that the department supports or provides resources for.

Chrmn. Smith stated if this is setting a precedent perhaps it would be necessary to set some guidelines for moving forward.

Comm. Rubenstein stated if there was ever a reason to make an exception to past practice, this would be a justifiable one.

Other commissioners felt this would definitely be a time to make an exception to a rule.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Donation of Microsoft Pro tablets from Valley EMS – Chief Mello stated the tablets would be for the Crime Scene Unit.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the donation of 2 Microsoft Pro tablets from Valley EMS. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Donation from the family of retired Officer Carl Hanson - \$500 for Officer Health & Wellness – Chief Mello recommended acceptance of the donation to the Officer Health & Wellness Fund and could be used at a future event.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept the donation of \$500 from the family of retired Officer Carl Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Dunkin Donuts gift cards from Mr. Raymond Doran – Chief Mello explained the gift cards were given in thanks to the way officers handled a situation at his residence.

It was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept the gift cards donations from Mr. Raymond Doran and as recommended by Chief Mello placing those gift cards in the Officer Health & Wellness Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Dunkin Donuts gift card from Kim Sekelsky – it was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept the Dunkin Donuts gift card from Kim Sekelsky. Motion carried unanimously.

g. Donation of \$323 from Paula Petinnella & LaFamilia Restaurant – for DARE Program –

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to accept the \$323 donation from Paula Petinnella & LaFamilia Restaurant for the DARE Program.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017– 6:00 P.M.

STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Chief Mello read a letter from Ms. Petinnella explaining a special evening event at the restaurant at which time a portion of each tab would be donated to the Milford Police Department. He stated the event was held in December and proceeds of \$323 was donated to the Department.

Motion carried unanimously.

h. Various other donations of food/pies/cookies/cards/gift cards during holiday season – Chief Mello acknowledged the many gifts of food that was brought to the Department during the holidays. He stated one local restaurant donated a full dinner, brought to headquarters, for each officer on duty on Christmas Eve. Chief Mello added he has never seen anything like that in the past and was pleased with this show of gratitude and thanks for our officers.

i. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello explained following this meeting he and Chrmn. Smith will be attending the Board of Aldermen meeting at which time that body will consider the Building Committee recommendation regarding the proposed new Police Dept. He explained he and the committee feel the parcel of land being recommended for purchase is on the Post Road near Erna Avenue and would be the best option. He explained the city has been able to reach a letter of intent to purchase the land. Further, the parcel is large enough for the present needs of the Department and in the future as well. He also noted meetings have been held with the land owner and the request for purchase has been approved by the Board of Finance and P & Z for 6 acre parcel, \$4.1 million.

Chief Mello stated the current headquarters will be sold and place on the tax rolls. He added this is something that other chiefs, past commissions and other administrations have agreed was needed and the architect has gone on record stating this will be the last police building the city will have to build.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

a. Day Care Renovation Addendum – 604 Naugatuck Ave. - it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Day Care Renovation Addendum – 604 Naugatuck Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Dunkin Donuts Development Plans Addendum – 364 Bridgeport Ave. - it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Dunkin Donuts Development Plans Addendum – 364 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 - none

MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017– 6:00 P.M.

STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Installation of No Parking Signs – 117 & 122 Cascade Blvd. – it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Installation of No Parking Signs – 117 & 122 Cascade Blvd. Motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMENDATIONS – Deputy Chief Rahn shared the following Commendations

a. Certificate of Commendation for 2 Officers – case #6296-16 – Deputy Chief Rahn stated on 11/5/16 Officers Degnan and Owens were dispatched to a residence for a burglar alarm. When they arrived they noted forced entrance to the house and shortly thereafter heard sound in the back of yard where they located the suspect who had property from the residence in his possession.

b. Unit Citation for 3 Officers – case #5645-16. – Deputy Chief Rahn stated as reported in the past, on 10/7/16 Officers Mahoney, Noss and Napolitano and his K-9 responded to assist the Woodbridge Police Dept. with a bank robbery. He further noted it was our department's K-9 team who located the suspect when it had been reported the suspect could not be found. This eventually led to capture and subsequent arrest.

Discussion ensued regarding when an arrest becomes a matter to be considered for commendation or is worthy of special recognition and Chief Mello explained it is when it is extraordinary or the officers have gone above and beyond.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION -

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

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:46 p.m. for the following matter:

a. Sick time deficit request by employee

Police Commissioners present, Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Rahn remained for executive session.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to reconvene in public session at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

a. Sick time deficit request by employee – it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve the request for sick time deficit based on Chief Mello's discretion and to be considered at 30-day intervals. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido

Submitted to City Clerk January 10, 2017