

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019, 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Bill Bevan, John Mager, Sharon Marrone, D. Rubenstein

COMMISSIONER NOT PRESENT: Alberta Jagoe

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Rahn, Ald. Vetro, D. Candido, Secty.

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

Chairman Smith took the opportunity to welcome Comm. Bevan to the Commission.

He also thanked the Commissioners for their confidence and support as shown in their re-election of him as Chair of this Board.

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS - none

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried with Chairman Smith abstaining as he was not present at the January meeting.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE – no correspondence

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

a.. Donation from Carolynn Hurley from Car Seat Installation clinic (\$30) – Upon the recommendation of Chief Mello, Vice Chair Bergami and Comm. Marrone made and seconded a motion to accept \$30 donation from Carolynn Hurley from Car Seat Installation Clinic and place those funds in the Officer Wellness Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Donation from Joan Henning from Car Seat Installation clinic (\$25) – Upon the recommendation of Chief Mello, Comm. Rubenstein and Comm. Marrone made and seconded a motion to accept the \$25 donation from Joan Henning from Car Seat Installation Clinic and place those funds in the Officer Wellness Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Informational: Safe Driving Awards for Officers James Cox and Sean Degnan.

d. Informational: Off Duty weapon request authorization for 11 Officers.

e. Chief's General comments – Chief reported the Academy is in its 8th week, noting Milford is one of 6 satellite academies in the state.

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Also, he announced that Sgt. James O'Keefe has announced his plans to retire July 2019 adding he will be on leave until that time, therefore, the Department is training someone to take over his responsibility in officer training.

Also, Officer Tomaselli retired on 1/31/19.

Chief stated he will be presenting the 2019-20 budget to the Board of Finance on Monday, February 26.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING & ZONING REQUESTS - none

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Vice Chair Bergami. and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein 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

10. NEW BUSINESS - none

11. COMMENDATIONS

Unit Citation for Dispatchers Laura Allen, Patricia Clemens, Seth Willox, Justin McCollum and Officer Austin Groves – case #376-19. – Deputy Chief Rahn related an incident which occurred in January, 2019 noting the incident highlights the fine efforts of all dispatchers in the combined Center. He explained that a call came in from an individual who stated he was at a college, claiming his intention to explode some ordinances and to harm students on campus. He then hung up and disconnected the call. Dispatchers worked together to try to locate the caller when a subsequent call came in and at this time Dispatcher Allen took the call and was able to keep the caller on the telephone providing opportunity to quickly identify where the individual could be and from that point the individual was able to be located, in an out of state location, within minutes. Deputy Chief Rahn explained this incident was what is related as spoofing attack whereby a person or program successfully masquerades as another by falsifying data, to gain an illegitimate advantage. He added it was the combined efforts and quick action of the dispatchers that curtailed this situation.

Chairman Smith asked why the call came to Milford and it was explained the situation involved people on different gaming consoles. He explained this “swatting” is the harassment tactic of deceiving an emergency service or dispatcher and it is simply a gaming issue.

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Chief Mello added our Department is the longest running Department with Computer Forensic ability who do an amazing job. He stated training back-ups for this task is continuous.

Certificate of Commendation for Sgt. Jay Kranyak – case #6504-18.- on 12/14/18, Sgt. Kranyak was near an area where a possible robbery took place. It was reported that an individual got out of their car and another individual then stole that car. It was indicated to Sgt. Kranyak that the person(s) involved had gone around the building they were parked near. Another witness stated there were people in the woods and one of them had a weapon. When finally reaching a male and female in altercation, one of which had a gun, Sgt. Kranyak was able to grab the weapon, control the situation and with the assistance of another officer arriving on the scene took both individuals into custody and arrested the female for car theft.

Deputy Chief Rahn stated Sgt. Kranyak's actions depicts the level of training our officers receive noting the final outcome of this situation could have been completely different.

Chief Mello added this is one example of the great work our officers do involving robberies. He noted that weekly staff members are commended for their good work/actions and this situation is something that is a cut above.

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 Chair Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. for the following matters:

- a. Consideration of sick time deficit for one employee.
- b. Consideration of the performance of one employee

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Rahn and commissioners present remained for Executive Session.

The meeting reconvened in public session at 7:24 p.m.

- a. It was moved by Vice Chair Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to uphold Chief Mello's decision to approve 29 hours of sick time for one employee. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. It was moved by Vice Chair Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to table item b: Consideration of the performance of one employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, it was moved by Vice Chair Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk February 12, 2019