

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013  
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**1. ROLL CALL**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Carol Faruolo, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, David Rubenstein, Jerold Wanosky

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Richard Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Mooney, Mr. Mead, P & Z Chair, Ald. Vetro and D. Candido, Secty.

Present for the meeting and for executive session matters were former Deputy Chief Fournier and former Capt. Shea.

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

**2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none**

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- L. Gardino, Jr., 52 Lamplight Lane – expressed concern regarding basketball pole/hoop alongside road where he resides and the fact that he and several of his neighbors previously brought this matter to the attention of the Police Dept. and at that time was told the matter would be taken care of. Since that time the children residing at 16 and 22 Lamplight Lane and their friends continue to play basketball on the street. He added the street is a cul-de-sac and this basketball playing area is a safety concern as well as making it difficult to drive on the street.

Chief Mello stated he will have someone from the dept. look up the previous file and pursue it at this time.

- J. Simoneck, 61 Governors Ave. – distributed a letter and photo addressing the dangerous intersection of North Street & Governors Ave. (letter attached to file copy of minutes only). He noted there have been numerous accidents at this intersection as well as property damage to the fence belonging to homeowner on the corner. He stated that in the past he brought this matter to the attention of the Police Dept. and the department was kind enough to investigate the matter and recommended a traffic light be installed but that has not happened. He stated in past years temporary signage has been placed there but it did not help and he continues to be concerned about students waiting for school buses in the area and pedestrian traffic.

Chief Mello explained this matter has come forward in the past as well as the recommendation for a traffic light and the department is currently working on a plan to address the safety concerns. He assured the commissioners and Mr. Simoneck that the plan is being worked on and hopefully a final recommendation will come forward shortly.

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- Ald. Vetro took the opportunity to congratulate Comm. Rubenstein on his appointment to the commission and as well congratulated Chief Mello for the recent graduation ceremony of the 6<sup>th</sup> Citizens Police Academy. He thanked the Chief and the department for this program.

Chief Mello thanked those who were able to attend the ceremony. He added he was pleased to announce that it is the intent of the city to partner with the Boys and Girls Club and put in place a Youth Citizens Police Academy to be located at the former Simon Lake School which is planned to be a training location for the department.

- E. Mead, 67 Peak Ave. – expressed his concern regarding the small “green” triangle area between SBC and Stonebridge and recalling numerous times when he has witnessed traffic heading up Broad Street around that triangle and traveling the wrong way and into oncoming traffic. He felt more signage is needed in that area advising drivers of the traffic flow pattern. As well he expressed concern regarding cars which drive on to River Street at the intersection of Broad, again traveling the wrong way on a one way portion of the street.

Chief Mello explained that he was hopeful the problems can be resolved with additional signage and the recommendation of a change in the traffic light at that intersection showing no vehicular entry at that point.

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

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2013 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- H. Povinelli – note of appreciation, thanking the department for the motorcycle escort provided at the recent funeral of his daughter.
- Graduate of the 6<sup>th</sup> Citizens Academy – (name withheld) stated that he has always wanted to become a police officer but a medical issue had kept him from fulfilling that dream and he was very disappointed. However, his experience has a member of the Citizens Police Academy was wonderful for him. He especially thanked Officer DelMonte input in the class noting he is humble, informative and an exceptional officer.
- Coleman, Bushnell, Chief, Norfolk Fire Dept., Norfolk, MA – thanked the department for the compassion and professionalism shown during the untimely death of his brother. He thanked Disp. Allen, Lt. Moore and Sgt. Chacon for the true professionalism and respect shown.
- S. Gurdak, 42 Botsford Ave. – as a new resident, he commended Officer Kiely who took the time to assist him, and ensured the future of the neighborhood where he resides will be crime free and safe. He added Officer Kiely was helpful and answered many questions.

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- S. Bonsanque, 1006 Naugatuck Ave. – thanked Officer Delmonte and Nielsen who assisted him in a recent automobile accident. He added he is proud of the officers in our dept. who consistently are helpful and respectful.
- A. Pol & J. Loïselle, Citizens Action Chairman, Condominium Association – acknowledged the department's role in the goal of this association, specifically the visit to one of the association's monthly meetings by Officer Nielsen. He stated Officer Nielsen was well-prepared, helpful, interesting and patient and they were grateful for his attendance. Further, they stated the department is fortunate to have an individual with such poise and promise. The letter also expressed appreciation for the enhanced police patrol in the Walnut Beach area.
- D. Lohnes, 110 Bertrose Ave. – recently she was involved in a hit/run accident while driving on the Post Road and Comm. Smith coincidentally was traveling in the same direction and witnessed the accident, and went as far as trying to identify the driver by the license plate. She commended Comm. Smith who stayed with her while Officer DelMonte investigated the matter adding both were kind, efficient and thorough and she was grateful to both.

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

a. Informational: Commissioner Melvin Eisenhandler has resigned from the Police Commission – Chief Mello and Chrmn. Jagoe both acknowledged Comm. Eisenhandler service to the city and Chief Mello stated a letter will be sent to him thanking him for that service. He also congratulated and welcomed Comm. Rubenstein.

b. Off Duty Weapon authorization for Off. Brandon Davidson, Off. Kyle Magnan, Off. Joseph Dempsey, Off. Stephen Napoletano (2), Off. Luke Holder and Off. C. Lennon – Chief Mello stated the weapons have been reviewed and all qualify and are in good working order.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve Off Duty Weapon authorization to officers listed.

Comm. Wanosky asked why one officer was requesting authorization for two weapons and Chief Mello explained the officers are allowed authorization for three weapons and he explained that is due to size and purpose of the weapon as well it could also depend on the season and clothes being worn.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. \$15.00 donation from Edward and Evelyn Berberich – Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$15.00 donation from Edward and Evelyn Berberich and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the DARE Donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

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d. \$20.00 donation from Mark and Melissa Pucci - Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the \$20.00 donation from Mark and Melissa Pucci and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the DARE Donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

e. \$5.00 donation from Riva Silverfarb - Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the 5.00 donation from Riva Silverfarb and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the DARE Donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

f. \$10.00 donation from Matthew Davis - Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the \$10.00 donation from Matthew Davis and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the DARE Donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

g. \$5.00 donation from Dorothy Sylvester - Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the 5.00 donation from Dorothy Sylvester and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the DARE Donation account. Motion carried unanimously.

h. \$400.00 donation from Cyrus Settineri – Chief Mello recommended this donation be placed in the Citizens Police Academy Fund.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept the \$400.00 donation from Cyrus Settineri and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the Citizens Police Academy Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

i. Donation of \$1,450.00 from Milford Police Citizens Academy Session #6 – Chief Mello explained this generous donation was collected amongst the members of the recently graduating class and will help to fund the next class as well and the implementation of the Youth Citizens Academy.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the donation of \$1,450.00 from Milford Police Citizens Academy Session #6 and as recommended by Chief Mello, apply the donation to the Citizens Police Academy Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Faruolo thanked those individuals who have made donations to continue this worthwhile program.

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Chief Mello interjected on 4/29/13 he will be appearing before the Board of Aldermen regarding the proposed 2013-14 budget and on 4/30/13 he will again go before the Board of Education to discuss School Resource Officers.

j. Safe Driving Mileage Awards to Off. S. Degnan, Off. G. Delmonte and Off. P. Taylor - It was moved by Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to award eight hours of comp time for an accumulation of 12,000 safe driving miles with no safety violations to the officers noted. Motion carried unanimously.

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

a. Key Hyundai – 580 Bridgeport Ave. - It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Key Hyundai – 580 Bridgeport Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

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

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve the following reports for March 2013.

- a. Uniform Crime Report (Dec)
- b. Special Investigations Unit Report
- c. Detective Bureau Report
- d. Crime Prevention Services Report
- e. Traffic Division & Licensing Unit Report

Motion carried unanimously.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo that the following two items remain on the table. Motion carried unanimously.

- a. Hearing for Anthony's Hi-Tech – suspension from Tow List (tabled from March 11, 2013 meeting).
- b. Golf Cart Ordinance (tabled March 11, 2013 meeting).

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Additional parking request – Milford Senior Center – Janice Jackson – It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve Traffic Div.

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recommendation to deny the additional parking request at the Milford Senior Center, made by Janice Jackson. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Request for stop sign on West Main/High St intersection. Also request to restrict truck traffic from turning at intersection – Sgt. D. Sharoh – Chief Mello explained the stop sign at that intersection is not ideal; however some additional signage must be placed there but the department cannot enforce it. He noted this was an advisory recommendation.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept Traffic Div. recommendation regarding request for stop sign on West Main/High St intersection. Also request to restrict truck traffic from turning at intersection.

Vice Chrmn. Bergami added that he recently received a letter from a resident noting some the same issues and concerns at this intersection. Vice Chrmn. Bergami stated since then he has personally witnessed the concerns with truck traffic at that intersection.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Crosswalk request – Boston Post Rd/Orange Ave. – It was moved by Comm. Marrone and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept Traffic Div. recommendation regarding the crosswalk request at Boston Post Rd/Orange Ave. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. COMMENDATIONS**

a. Certificate of Commendation and Unit Citation re: Case #2012000539 (tabled from March 11, 2013 meeting.) – It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Marrone to remove from the table Certificate of Commendation and Unit Citation re: Case #2012000539 (tabled March 11, 2013 meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Mooney reported on 1/24/12 Officers Weymer and Moreno were dispatched to a suicidal male who was holding a knife and threatening to harm himself. Other officers were dispatched collectively and calmly subdued the individual, saving him from injuring himself and others during a dangerous and stressful situation.

Based on his actions, Officer A. Moreno will receive a Certificate of Commendation and the following officers will be given a Unit Citation: Lt. Marschner, Officer Lima, Sgt. Weymer, Officer Ruggerio, Officer McMahon and Officer Holden.

b. Certificate of Commendation and Unit Citation re: Case #2012008910 (tabled from March 11, 2013 meeting). – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to remove from the table Certificate of Commendation and Unit Citation re: Case #2012008910 (tabled March 11, 2013 meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Mooney reported on 12/20/12 Dispatcher Brooks received a call from a female subject threatening suicide with a fire arm. Dispatcher Brooks did an outstanding job communicating with the subject, getting her to put the weapon down and directing officers to her aid.

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Based on his actions, Dispatcher Brooks will receive a Certificate of Commendation and the following officers will be given a Unit Citation: Officer Dancy, Officer A. Moreno, Officer Cruz and Officer Groves.

Chief Mello was pleased to report that on 5/8/13 the city will be combining the dispatch units of the Fire and Police Departments to be located at police headquarters.

**13. Executive Session**

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

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. for the following matters:

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

- a. Grievance #-2013 at step #3 – tabled from March 11, 2013 meeting.
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> quarter probationary review for the following Officers: Austin Groves, Bryan Jock, Joseph Dempsey, Brandon Davidson, Stephen Napoletano.
- c. Consideration of the performance of one employee.
- d. Review of Personnel Internal Investigation.

All Commissioners present, Chief Mello, Deputy Chief Mooney, former Deputy Chief Fournier and former Capt. Shea remained in Executive Session.

(Ald. Vetro, Mr. Mead and general public present left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

It was moved by Vice Chrmn Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to reconvene in public session at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to uphold Chief Mello's recommendation regarding all matters discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Candido, Secretary