

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Anthony Candido, Melvin Eisenhandler, Carol Faruolo, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, Jerold Wanosky

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

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

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ald. Vetro stated he has been receiving calls from residents near Brewster Field regarding the parking problem now that baseball season has started. Ald. Vetro recollected the survey done last year of the residents on Watrous Lane and the fact that after the survey, they were in agreement with the recommendation and with the posted signage regarding parking. He stated the residents are now expressing their concerns about parking on the street while games are being played.

Chief Mello explained that when traffic configurations or changes are made, there is always the group of people who are satisfied and the group who are not. He noted that last year meetings were held with the residents on Watrous Lane and Brewster Road and it was the department's understanding that the parking lot at the field would be acceptable for parking for games. He stated it seems that the manner in which the games are being scheduled is not allowing for sufficient parking and he would be in touch with the president of the league to see if there could be a resolution beginning with the scheduling of games.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, April 11, 2011 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Gene Marcucci, Chief of Police, Woodbridge – expressed his appreciation for the assistance received from our department with the K-9 search recently conducted at the high school. He stated the officers who assisted are a credit to the department and our city. He noted the officers assistance made it possible to search a number of lockers as well as vehicles in the student parking lot which resulted in a drug-related arrest.
- Nelson Rivera, Sunnyside Court – member of the Citizens Police Academy who along with the submission of his evaluation of the program, took the time to share his personal comments

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011
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regarding the experience of being a member of the recent class and his new found pride in the police force. He stated this department reflects a high level of commitment and honor.

Chief Mello explained that aside from the survey to the members of the academy, he also has conducted a supervisor/leadership survey, sent to staff members, which is used to gauge the training and development being done. He added that although he tries to limit the amount of documents he sends to the commissioners, he would be happy to share the information derived from that survey at a future meeting if so desired.

- Trista Simonik, Governor's Avenue – expressed appreciation for the added enforcement assigned to Governors Avenue and stated she was hopeful that this enforcement will make folks think twice about speeding on Governors Avenue.
- John Roche, Chief of Police, Ridgefield – expressed appreciation for the department's participation in the promotional testing process for the position of Sergeant.

Chief Mello explained this is a reciprocal benefit to both departments.

- Ray Paskewicz – expressed his appreciation to the time and energy put in to the process of allowing qualified officers, active or retired, to carry firearms in the country.
- David Ridberg, Chief of Police, Greenwich – expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to have Det. Broderick work on an undercover investigation in Greenwich.
- Eliz. Grzeszych – thanked Officer Nielsen for his correspondence to Jonathan Kernin, London, England informing him that the warrant for his arrest is current. She stated that Officer Nielsen worked tirelessly with the court and she was very grateful for his effort.
- Special Olympics Chili Fest Event Organizers – expressed their appreciation to the officers and staff who participated in the recent fundraising event. Appreciation letters were sent to Officers Kranyak, Nielsen, Mahoney, Staurovsky, Gall, Ms. Walsh (stenographer), Sgt and Mrs. Carney, Sgt. Vitti, Sgt. Dumas and Lt. Compare.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Marrone to add to the agenda item 6d. Donation from Citizens Police Academy. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Chief Mello asked that the donation from the Citizens Police Academy be considered first so the guest who was present could leave to make another commitment.

John Powers, recent graduate of this year's Citizen's Police Academy was present and presented Chief Mello with a check in the amount of \$1,125 from the class of 2011.

Chief Mello thanked Mr. Powers and the class for their generosity.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011
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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the donation of \$1,125 from the members of the Class of 2011 Citizens Police Academy and to apply those funds to the future of the program offering as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

a. Police Sick and Relief Fund account – It was noted by Chrmn. Jagoe that this account will be maturing shortly and it is necessary to renew it at this time.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to renew the Police Sick and Relief Fund account as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Milford Lions Club donation of \$400 – Chief Mello recommended this donation be accepted and applied to the DARE account.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the \$400 donation from the Milford Lions Club and apply those funds to the DARE account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Accident free mileage awards – It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to award eight hours of comp time for an accumulation of 12,000 safe driving miles with no safety violations to Officers Bedeker, Demirjian, Mahoney and Pisani. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

a. 989 Wheelers Farms Rd – Proposed subdivision – Maple Tree Farm – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Eisenhandler to approve the report from Traffic Division regarding 989 Wheelers Farm Road proposed subdivision, Maple Tree Farm. Motion carried unanimously.

Comm. Wanosky noted that Sgt. Sharoh does an excellent job on these reports.

Chief Mello explained that Sgt. Sharoh has had training in this area and added the entire department does a thorough and good job on the filing of such reports and he stated he will share Comm. Wanosky's comments with Sgt. Sharoh.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

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

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

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM – POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to accept reports a, b, c and d as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

10. NEW BUSINESS – none

Chief Mello stated he will be unavailable for the regularly scheduled June 13, 2011 meeting and asked that the meeting be rescheduled due to possible agenda matters which he should be present for. It was agreed to reschedule the June meeting to Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

Chief Mello explained that at this year's Oyster Festival alcohol will be served at Lisman's Landing and the department is looking for volunteers who would want to be trained for traffic control. He added they will be reaching out to the Citizens Academy and other volunteers for possible assistance.

11. COMMENDATIONS - none

12. Executive Session

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

No matters for consideration in Executive Session.

Chrmn. Jagoe questioned the Chief regarding the change in the FOI ruling pertaining to the destroying of specific videos.

Chief Mello explained that the reverse decision was unprecedented and it is important to know that despite the change in the ruling, the department was cited for giving credible and honest testimony and that not retaining the videos was an accident and had been ruled as inadvertent.

It was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Candido, Secretary