

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016– 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7 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

- Alyssa Dunn – Pearl Hill St – expressed her concern regarding speeding drivers on Pearl Hill St. explaining the fact the street has a hill which levels to flat. She spoke in support of a street bump on the street in an attempt to slow the cars down adding not only her pet but two other pets have been killed by speeding drivers. She added there are two signs on the street indicating handicapped children/careful driving and drivers do not pay attention to those signs.

Chrmn. Smith thanked her for coming to the meeting and sharing her concerns.

Chief Mello stated the Traffic Division will look into the situation and assess what can be done adding he is not in favor of speed bumps for various reasons such as causing problems during winter months with snow plowing and also there is the possibility of the bumps impeding emergency vehicles. He assured her that the Dept. will determine what is best for that particular street with regard to traffic enforcement.

- J. Carissimi - 64 Kirkside Ave. – he was pleased to report on the success of the recent Drug Take Back Day adding a new record of collection was set. He commended Milford Prevention Council for doing a great job promoting the cause.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2016 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- Charles Sherwood, Director, South Central Criminal Justice Assoc. – thanked Chief Mello for allowing Officer Jock to serve as a panelist at the recently completed oral board examination for position of Recruit Police Officer.

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- Tom Crispino – 257 Broadway – expressed his concern regarding new city ordinance which prohibits boats or boat trailers parking on the streets. He stated this ordinance will create a hardship for many boat owners in the city who will have no place to park their boats.

Chief Mello stated he had reservations on passing this ordinance and felt it will be too difficult to carve out exceptions and he felt there similar letters of concern will continue to come forward.

- Paul Cavanna, Principal, West Shore Middle School – shared comments regarding Officer DelMonte's presence as SRO at the school and the fact that Officer DelMonte will be leaving this position at the end of May as he has been promoted to a higher rank. Mr. Cavanna noted Officer DelMonte has worked with students and staff to create a safe environment and his dedication to the students, faculty and West Shore community makes him an asset to all.
- Resident – thankful for Officers Hemperley and St. Germain who responded to a call at residence on late on the evening of 4/10/16.
- Donna Christiansen – 40 Weeping Willow Lane – thanked Officers Murray and Sikorsky who went beyond the call of duty with professionalism and caring when responding to a call at her residence.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

- a. Informational: Chief Mello shared the following with the Commissioners:
 - Off. William Localzo has retired effective 4/15/16.
 - Officer Collin Walsh resigned effective 4/14/16.
 - Lt. William Cable has retired effective 4/29/16.
 - Off. Emily Covelli resigned effective 4/29/16.
- b. Donation from Mark Grasso - \$100 – Donation made by Mr. Grasso in appreciation for police escort for mother-in-law's funeral procession. Chief Mello recommended this donation be applied to the DARE Account.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to apply the \$100 donation from Mark Grasso to the DARE Account as recommended by Chief Mello. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Donation from Carrubba - \$1,500 – Chief Mello explained this donation was made in appreciation to officers who used CPR to save the life of 3 individuals.

Chief Mello asked that he be given the opportunity to inquire to his staff where it was felt this donation should be applied, perhaps for some specific need in the Department.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to table the consideration of the \$1,500 donation from Carrubba at this time allowing Chief Mello the opportunity to discuss where it might be applied with staff members. Motion carried unanimously.

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- d. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello reported the Building Committee will not be visiting the Danbury Police Headquarters at the end of this month as anticipated and a new date will be offered.

Chief Mello reminded Commissioners that the Citizens Police Academy Graduation is scheduled for 5/19, Officers Police Academy Graduation on 5/23 and the Annual Daniel Wasson Run is scheduled for early morning on 5/20.

He also took the time to thank members of the Citizens Police Academy for their participation on Drug Take Back Day.

Chief Mello was pleased to report that Sgt. Chila will be promoted to Lt. and Officer DelMonte promoted to Sgt.

With regard to other matters, Chief reported the Board of Aldermen recently approved funding for body-worn cameras noting a grant was awarded which will pay \$136,000 for the first year and subsequent years the cost of \$109,000 will be assumed by the city. This cost is for the annual storage. He added the FOI costs will rise tremendously with the addition of this equipment. The cameras are to be used for all uniform and enforcement officers.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

- a. Day Care Renovation – 604 Naugatuck Ave. – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to approve Traffic Div. rejection of the proposal for the Day Care Renovation, 604 Naugatuck Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. 3 Lot Subdivision – 240 Fresh Meadow Lane – It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Wanosky to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding 3 Lot subdivision – 240 Fresh Meadow Lane. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Child Daycare Center – 155 Hill St – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Child Daycare Center, 155 Hill St. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Twin Oaks Terrace – It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Twin Oaks Terrace. Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Vice Chrmn Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe 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

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10. NEW BUSINESS - none

11. COMMENDATIONS – Deputy Chief Rahn presented the following information:

a. Certificate of Commendation – Off. Zachary Mislagle – Deputy Chief Rahn reported on 3/18/16 Officer Mislagle was dispatched to residence for a call regarding an unresponsive 30 year old male. Officer Mislagle performed CPR on the individual for 3-5 minutes and was able to revive the individual until the Fire Department arrived on the scene. The individual ultimately survived.

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. Wanosky to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. regarding the following matters.

a. 3rd Quarter probationary review for 6 Officers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Included in Executive Session were commissioners present, Chief Mello and Deputy Chief Rahn.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to reconvene in public session at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business, it was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, May 17, 2016