

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017 7:00 P.M.
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Sam Bergami, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, David Rubenstein, Richard Smith

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Carol Faruolo, Jerold Wanosky

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Mello; Deputy Chief Rahn; Sgt. Kranyak; Officer Lockwood (First Exec. Session only); Ald. Vetro; D. Candido, Secty.

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

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to reorder the agenda to bring item 12a. 1st Quarter Probationary Review for 7 Officers to this point in the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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 7:10 p.m. for the following matters:

- a. 1st Quarter Probationary review for 7 Officers.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to reconvene in public session at 7:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

No action necessary

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS – none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- B. Carissimi – spoke on behalf of her husband and herself and thanked Chief Mello for the police assistance at the recent Pumpkins on the Pier event which was a successful event.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2017 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Robyn Teplitzly- resident – expressed gratitude to the department regarding a family incident officers assisted with on 10/4/17
- C. Sherwood, Director – So. Central Criminal Justice Administration – expressed appreciation to Det. Noss who recently served on panel for position of Recruit Police Officer
- West Shore Fire District – related details regarding a boating accident occurring on 8/26/17 to which our department responded. Expressed gratitude for help provided by Milford Police & Fire Dept., CT State Police, USCG, West Haven Fire & Police Dept and New Haven Fire Dept.
- Hand drawn thank you card from student in Milford who thanked our officers for keeping everyone safe
- John & Barbara Giarretta – thanked the Department for dedication and services and the ongoing protection every day. The letter explained the message would be sent to 50 law enforcement agencies in each state.
- Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence – recognized Officers Frey & Bruno and Capt. Dumas for their assistance in the 10/4 *Sound of Hope* event

Chief Mello explained he has decided to have someone from the Traffic Division attend the commission's monthly meetings to answer any questions members may have regarding Traffic Div. recommendation or studies.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

a. Donation from Bozzuto's Hometown Foundation for K9 Unit - \$2,000 - Chief Mello recommended this \$2,000 donation be placed in the donation account for the future purchase of the Department's next K-9.

It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept the \$2,000 donation from Bozzuto's Hometown Foundation and as recommended by Chief Mello place those monies in the donation account for future purchase of next K-9. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Safe Driving Awards to Off. Sean Degnan, Off. Antonio Aquino, Sgt. Andrew Dunaj, Sgt. John Kranyak. – Chief Mello recommended the above noted officers be awarded 8 hours compensatory time for accident free mileage.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve 8 hours compensatory time for accident free mileage for Off. Sean Degnan, Off. Antonio Aquino, Sgt. Andrew Dunaj, Sgt. John Kranyak. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Chief's General comments – Chief Mello reported a tentative agreement has been reached with the Police Union regarding their contract. He stated details will not be released at this time but he did take the opportunity to commend the city team of negotiators for their ongoing efforts.

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Also Chief Mello referred to the 2 openings in the Department's dispatch center adding they have never been fully staffed in that area and it becomes necessary to take officers off their duty to put them in the center. He explained the impact such an issue can have on public safety especially if it is necessary to fill the vacancy for Fire Dept. Dispatch. He stated although there is a hiring freeze in place in the city, he will continue to push to fill those positions.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING & ZONING REQUESTS

a. Brewery Pub – 100 Raton Drive – it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Bergami to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Brewery Pub – 100 Raton Drive. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Repossession Business – Shelland Street – it was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding Repossession Business – Shelland Street. 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

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Crosswalk Request – Orange Ave at Athletic Complex – it was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept recommendation of Traffic Division regarding Crosswalk Request – Orange Ave at Athletic Complex.

Chrmn. Smith commented that in his opinion crosswalks are often ineffective. He asked how it is decided to go with a crosswalk vs light signal.

Chief Mello explained it is based on cost and a light signal is costly.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. No Parking request – Cascade Blvd – it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Vice Chrmn. Bergami to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding No Parking request – Cascade Blvd. Motion carried unanimously.

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c. No Parking request – Merwin Ave. (Live Oaks School) near Sheffield – it was moved by Comm. Jagoe and seconded by Comm. Marrone to accept Traffic Division recommendation regarding No Parking request – Merwin Ave. (Live Oaks School) near Sheffield. Motion carried unanimously.

11. COMMENDATIONS – Deputy Chief Rahn shared the following:

a. Certificate of Commendation – Off. Brock Roggie, case #4631-17 – Deputy Chief Rahn explained the incident which occurred in the early morning hours on New Haven Avenue (Anthony D's Restaurant) when Officer Roggie was doing routine business checking and saw a vehicle parked in the parking lot of restaurant. Officer noted that operator of car was outside car vandalizing restaurant window. It was noted the suspect is a very big man and very aggressive. Officer Roggie conducted himself professionally and with level of calm as he gave direction to the suspect. Eventually officer deployed taser and took suspect into custody. Deputy Chief Rahn also noted that during initially deployment, Officer Roggie was by himself and it wasn't until later in the incident that back up was on the scene.

b. Letter of Recognition – Off. Maria Frey, case #4220-17 – Deputy Chief Rahn explained on an early morning when Officer Frey was beginning her shift, she was exiting parking lot at headquarters in vehicle and was flagged by female motorist who was going through a mental health crisis. During conversation with individual, Officer Frey learned that this individual had a child who she had left with family in another town. Officer Frey investigated family contacts through conversation with the female individual and learned that the family who had the baby were not prepared at all for child care needs. Baby was brought to Milford and Officer Frey purchased diapers and formula and stayed with the baby until family member who was going to take custody of the child arrived.

Chief Mello explained that he personally met with Officer Frey and attempted to repay her for the purchases she personally made for the child but she refused to accept the money for purchases.

Chief Mello asked members to allow for one more matter to be added to the agenda, specifically item 12 b Executive Session – Consideration of reimbursement of military compensation from one officer.

It was moved by Vice Chrmn. Bergami and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion regarding consideration of reimbursement of military compensation from one officer at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting reconvened in public session at 7:56 p.m.

Being no further business, it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Jagoe to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk October 11, 2017