

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2014
STAFF CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

Chrmn. Jagoe called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Carol Faruolo, Alberta Jagoe, Sharon Marrone, David Rubenstein, Richard Smith, Jerold Wanosky

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT: Sam Bergami

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

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

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS - none

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- J. Carissimi – directed comments to the recent Pumpkins on the Pier event and thanked Chief Mello for making it possible to have volunteers representing the department on site.

Chief Mello thanked Mr. Carissimi for representing the department.

- Ald. Vetro – congratulated Chief Mello for obtaining a \$25,000 Port Authority Grant which he was certain would be put to good use.

Chief Mello explained the department's Scuba Team equipment was underfunded and therefore equipment and dry suits were not being replaced but thanks to this grant money, the funds will be used specifically for that.

- E. Mead – P & Z Liaison – thanked the department for their help at the recent Irish Festival adding Sgt. Todd Richards had been assigned to the event and he was a great help.

Comm. Smith took the opportunity to acknowledge the fact that Milford's Columbus Club recently recognized Ald. Vetro as the Italian American of the Year.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2014 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Mello shared the following correspondence:

- K. Perkins – resident – expressed gratitude for the kindness of received when dispatched to their home on 9/18/14.
- Wm. Boynton – referred to an incident which occurred approximately a year ago noting Officer Salati's professionalism and politeness at that time.

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- M. Altomare, Executive Director, Boys & Girls Club of Milford – expressed gratitude for the department's volunteers who assisted at the recent Pumpkins on the Pier event noting their presence helped everything run smoothly and a lot less costly.
- Ginny Sanderi – resident Island View Park – wrote on behalf of the tenants of Island View Park thanking Capt. Rahn who came to meet with the tenants to discuss the concerns of their community. Also thanked the Director of the Milford Housing Authority for making this opportunity available to them.
- Wendy Gibbons – Milford Prevention Council – wrote on behalf of the MPC and the Woodruff YMCA to express their gratitude for the department's assistance at the recent Super Hero Family Fun Day.
- Theo & George Sabellow – resident – thanked Chief Mello for his cooperation in assuring the *No Parking Driveway* sign was reposted on 28 Richard Street.
- Peg McGowan, Luralton Hall Staff – on behalf of the freshman students at Luralton Hall, she thanked De. Frawley who, in recent years, has come to speak to the students regarding computer safety and how they are not to be used. She added his demeanor and knowledge of content is to be commended. Also, she was appreciative of the fact that his schedule allows him to come to the school to speak to the students and she looks forward to his return next year.
- Dorene Conlan – resident – wrote to assure Officer Zbikowski that all 4 of her family cars had their insurance cards in them.
- Maureen Michaels - Senior Health Fair Committee – thanked Officer Nielsen for participating in the 2014 Senior Health Day noting he always does a great job.
- Ray Doneault – Milford resident – thanked Det. Tomaselli for pursuing the issuer of a bad check and seeing to it that the funds were received to satisfy the principal of the check.
- Tom Gaydos – resident – thanked Chief Mello and Capt. Alexopoulos for their concern about the safety of the Woodmont community (19 Chapel Street)
- Corinne Demayo – Boys & Girls Village – thanked the Chief for the department's assistance in completing the school safety survey was needed in order to apply for a school security grant. She added Officer Nielsen was able to accommodate their schedule and that was appreciated.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF CHIEF ON MATTERS OF ADMINISTRATION

- a. Informational: M/Sgt. John Burton will retire 10/31/14 – Chief Mello acknowledged Master Sgt. Burton who ran the academy last year noting his retirement will be a big loss to the department.
- b. Informational: Sgt. Todd Richards will retire effective 11/14/14. – Chief Mello explained Sgt. Richards' retirement will impact the department as there is nobody currently on staff who has his IT skills.

Chief Mello explained our department needs a full time IT person and we have been lucky to have had staff members who were extremely knowledgeable in the IT area. He added a full time person is needed to manage the system and fulfill the obligation of the state in completing forms and transmitting data to the state. He also noted he planned to pursue a full time IT person in the next budget.

- c. Donation from Susan Ricketson – upon the recommendation of Chief Mello, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$20 donation from Susan Ricketson and place the funds into the DARE account. Motion carried unanimously.

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d. Donation from Richard Persico – upon the recommendation of Chief Mello, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to accept the \$150 donation from Richard Persico and place the funds in the Citizens Police Academy fund. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Donation from Marilyn Butanowica – upon the recommendation of Chief Mello, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to accept the \$10 donation from Marilyn Butanowica and place the funds in the DARE account. Motion carried unanimously.

f. Safe Driving Awards to Sgt. J. Simko, Off. C. Cacchillo and Off. G. Gallagher - It was moved by Comm. Rubenstein 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 Sgt. J. Simko, Off. C. Cacchillo and Off. G. Gallagher. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORT ON PLANNING AND ZONING REQUESTS

a. 364 Orange Avenue – 4 lot re-subdivision - It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding 364 Orange Avenue – 4 lot re-subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve the following reports:

- a. Special Investigations Unit Report
- b. Detective Bureau Report
- c. Crime Prevention Services Report
- d. Traffic Division & Licensing Unit Report

Motion carried unanimously.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Comm. Smith directed comments to the recurrent comments received regarding adoption of a noise ordinance and he added that he realized it would be difficult to enforce such an ordinance. He stated residents have told him that when an officer is called due to such a complaint, the resident is told that there is nothing the department can do because there is no noise ordinance on the books. He suggested the officers perhaps should communicate differently to the person making the complaint.

Chief Mello felt an officer's response may be misconstrued in such incidents adding the department's responsibility is to make an objective analysis as to what is reasonable and take an approach to consider the time of day, if it is a weekend and other contributing factors before it is determined a situation is unreasonably loud. He stated he would be surprised to learn that an officer would respond that they cannot do anything because there is not a noise ordinance in place adding there are state statutes which allow local departments to handle loud or

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excessive noises but if the city did have a noise ordinance passed, devices would need to be purchased and officers trained on how to use those devices in order to enforce it.

In another matter, Comm. Smith asked if there are any concerns regarding renaming of streets in the city and he referred to renaming a street which now has 2 names and adding a 3rd.

Chief Mello stated he did not see a problem if that was to come forward.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Stop Sign request – Orange Ave/Locust St. - it was moved by Comm. Rubenstein and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding the stop sign request at Orange Ave/Locust St.

Comm. Smith expressed his concern regarding that intersection specifically who has the right of way when traveling southbound on Orange Ave to that intersection.

Chief Mello stated he will have the request for the sign and the location reviewed again.

It was moved by Comm. Smith and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to table this matter for further review. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Crosswalk request – Bridgeport Ave/Robert Treat Drive - it was moved by Comm. Faruolo and seconded by Comm. Smith to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding the crosswalk request – Bridgeport Ave/Robert Treat Drive. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Stop Sign request – Westmoor Rd/Atwater St. - it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Marrone to approve Traffic Div. recommendation regarding the stop sign request – Westmoor Rd/Atwater St. Motion carried unanimously.

Chrmn. Jagoe expressed her concern as to whether anyone from the state or federal government has offered to provide guidelines to the local police departments regarding EBOLA handling.

Chief Mello explained they are receiving guidance and are looking at what the department's roll is if the Health Dept should issue quarantine to a home. He added the department does not have any of the protective equipment needed but if there appears to be a direct threat to CT, he would seek out the equipment needed. He added the department is not considered a first responder and are only required for security and traffic control.

11. COMMENDATIONS

- Deputy Chief Mooney addressed the 6/4/14 shooting which occurred on Midway Road when the victim of the shooting was being pursued by the shooter and running down an adjacent street. As a result of the quick response and diligent actions of PFC Robinson, Det. Haas and Officer Zbikowski the shooter was contained which put these officers in danger so others would be safe. She added these officers continue to prove to be an asset to this department and the community and based on their actions, she recommended they be awarded a Meritorious Service Award.

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Also it was recommended that Officer Maria Frey and Dispatcher Laura Allen be awarded a commendation for their actions and professionalism during this critical incident.

- Deputy Chief Mooney addressed a complaint of an unresponsive male at 59 Harvest Lane on 8/12/14. Without being dispatched, Sgt. Beauvais responded to the address and found the male sitting in a chair and not breathing. Sgt. Beauvais immediately began conducting chest compressions to the individual who remained unresponsive, not breathing and absent of a pulse. Sgt. Beauvais successfully moved the patient from a sitting position in the chair and continued chest compressions until PFC Doerr arrived and took over; the male began to respond with attempts to breath and shortly thereafter the MFD personnel arrived, patient had a faint pulse and was transported to the hospital.

Based on their ability to move the patient from the chair and begin CPR, both officers applied their training and showed their commitment to public service by acting swiftly to save the man's life.

Deputy Chief Mooney referred to MPD's Chief Edo letter citing the officers actions affected the outcome and displayed an excellent example of the services and systems that the citizens of Milford have come to expect. Based on their life saving attempts, it was recommended that PFC Doerr and Sgt. Beauvais receive a Certificate of Commendation.

Chrmn. Jagoe added Chief Mello should be proud of the actions of his department just as this commission is.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn to Executive at 7:52 p.m. for Consideration of Report of Chief of Police on matters concerning the Appointment, Employment, Performance, Evaluation, Health, or Dismissal of Department Employees

- a. Consideration of the performance of one (1) employee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Included in Executive Session were Chief Mello, Chief Mooney and the commissioners.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to reconvene in public session at 8:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Rubenstein to uphold the Chief's recommendation regarding the performance of one (1) employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Comm. Wanosky and seconded by Comm. Faruolo to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Diane Candido
Submitted to City Clerk, Oct. 22, 2014