1. **Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Smith at 7:05 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Sam Bergami, Bill Bevan, Alberta Jagoe, John Mager, Sharon Marrone, D. Rubenstein, Richard Smith

Also Present: Police Chief Keith Mello, D/Chief Kenneth Rahn, Ald. Phil Vetro, Marcia Krusewski, Secretary, Lt. David Chila.

Chief Mello requested that Chairman Smith add on two items to tonight’s agenda.

Under New Business – 10b. Criteria for D/Chief job position

Under Executive Session – 12 c. Internal Investigation

1. **Consideration of Appointments - none**
2. **Citizen Comments - none**
3. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was moved by Commission Bergami and seconded by Commissioner Jagoe to approve the minutes of the June 2019 meeting. Commissioners John Mager and Alberta Jagoe abstained from the vote since they were not present at the last meeting. Motion carried.

1. **Reading of Correspondence**:

* A letter of thanks to our Police Officers from the organization called Hard Head Veterans.
* A letter of thanks from Chief Perez in Bridgeport thanking us for allowed Bridgeport Officers to train at our firearms facility.
* A letter of thanks from Sgt. Brian Mitchell from New Canaan Police Department thanking Officers Kate Bruno and Marilisa Anania for conducting polygraph exams.
* A letter of thanks from the Milford Police and Fire Retiree’s association and the PBA regarding the Police Memorial Day ceremony held here at police headquarters.
* A letter of thanks from State’s Attorney Margaret Kelly for the assistance of Det. Michael Cruz and Det. Dennis Broderick in a court case.
* A letter of thanks from the Alexander Jordan Jamieson Foundation regarding Sgt. Jay Kranyak and his assistance.
* A letter of thanks for the Food2Kids foundation to our Police Officers and their assistance to their organization from Nikki Wayne.

1. **Consideration of Report of Chief on Matters of Administration**
2. Safe Driving Awards for Off. M. Anania, A. Aquino, D. Bailey, K. Bruno, Sgt. A. Dunaj, Det. W. Haas, Off. A. Moreno, Sgt. J. Sikorsky, Lt. R. Weymer – informational only
3. Informational: Det. William Haas will retire effective 11/2/19 – 35 years of service
4. Informational: D/Chief Kenneth Rahn will retire effective 11/1/19 – 25 years of service
5. Chief’s General Comments:

The Chief reminded the Commissioners that Sgt. James O’Keefe had retired in July. Sgt. Tom Wardowski has taken his place in the Training Unit. We will be working on doing some enhanced training in the near future.

In July our Department participated in the Channel 3 Kids Camp fundraiser. We raised enough money to send 7 children to the Channel 3 Kids Camp. Milford was well represented at the fundraiser with equipment, police K9s and Officers who attended.

Our new Recruits have just finished their FTO training and are on their own.

The Chief will be submitting names to the Commission for their approval of the new Deputy Chief. He hopes to do this by November 1st.

1. **Report on Planning & Zoning Requests**
2. Manufacturing Facility – 1125 Oronoque Rd

Motion made by Commissioner Mager and seconded by Commissioner Rubenstein. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Amendment to Special Permit for a Patio – Stonebridge – 50 Daniel St

Motion made by Commissioner Rubenstein and seconded by Commissioner Marrone. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Fire Engine Pizza – 204 Melba St

Motion made by Commissioner Mager and seconded by Commission Marrone. Motion carried unanimously.

1. 12 Unit Housing Development 34-40 Gulf St.

Motion made by Commissioner Rubenstein and seconded by Commission Bergami. Motion carried unanimously.

1. **Acceptance of Reports**
2. Special Investigations Unit Report
3. Detective Bureau Report
4. Crime Prevention Report
5. Traffic Division and Licensing Unit Report

It was moved by Commissioner Bergami and seconded by Commissioner Jagoe to approve the above reports. Carried unanimously.

1. **Unfinished Business** – none
2. **New Business**
   1. Crosswalk Request – Welch’s Pt Rd/Long Islandview/Midwood Rd.

It was moved by Commissioner Mager and seconded by Commissioner Bergami to approve the recommendations of the Traffic Division’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission Bevan spoke about the crosswalk area since it is very close to his home. He sees problems with children crossing in that area. He believes there should be sidewalks on the other side and realizes it is not part of this study. We may need to look at this in the future. The Chief discussed the safety issue of having crosswalks that are too close to each other, similar to issues we’ve had downtown. We do not want to create a hazard. We will be sending a letter to the requester of this study.

* 1. Criteria for Deputy Chief Job Position

The Chief discussed the qualifications for the Deputy Chief position. He is considering 15 years experience with 3 years as a Lieutenant or above, and a Bachelor’s Degree. He discussed the fact that we have a young department and the 15-year requirement would limit the candidates. He felt that perhaps we should waive a year or change the 15-year requirement to 14 or 13 or even 12. Last time we were looking at the D/Chief position, we had a much bigger pool of candidates. That is not the case now.

Discussion ensued regarding the 15 years or other amount of years. The Chief felt that some longevity is good and the education requirement is very important. Commissioner Mager felt that we should not do any kind of waiver, we should just decide on a number of years. He felt that 12 was fine. Commissioner Jagoe asked how important was the 15-year requirement. Commissioner Smith asked if the requirements were codified. The Chief replied that the Commission decides on the qualifications based upon a recommendation from the Chief.

Commissioner Smith commented that the Commission will interview the candidates that the Chief presents to them and that the Chief can present the criteria to the Commission. Any further discussion would be in Executive Session.

1. **Commendations**
   1. Certificate of Commendation for Det. Edward O’Keefe – case #2746-19

Chief Mello related that Det. O’Keefe was instrumental in recovering a stolen firearm and the arrest of the subject for possession of drugs. The arrested individual was later found to be on paroles for prior weapons offenses and other violent crimes. This motor vehicle stop was made at Walnut Beach.

1. **Executive Session**

Motion was made by Commissioner Bergami and seconded by Commission Jagoe to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:40 pm. for consideration of Report of Chief of Police on matters concerning the Appointment, Employment, Performance, Evaluation, Health or Dismissal of Department Employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Mello and Commissioners present remained for Executive Session. Officer Paul Studdard entered Executive Session at 7:41 pm and left Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

1. Final probationary rating for one Police Officer
2. Consideration of the performance of one employee.
3. Internal Investigation

It was moved by Commissioner Jagoe and seconded by Commissioner Bergami to reconvene in public session at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Bergami and seconded by Commissioner Mager to uphold the Chief’s consideration of the performance of one employee. Motion carried.

Chairman Smith made a motion to allow the Chief to determine qualifications for the eligible person for the Deputy Chief position. Motion carried.

Being no further business, it was moved by Commission Jagoe and seconded by Commissioner Marrone to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Motion carried.

Submitted by: Marcia Krusewski \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: September 11, 2019

Submitted to City Clerk on September 11, 2019