

POLICE COMMISSION

August 22, 2018 Minutes

PRESENT: Commissioner James Sponaugle, Commissioner Eric Prior, Commissioner Trish Hansen, Chief F. Michael Catalano, Deputy Chief Paul Sandy, and Secretary Diane Ferri.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on August 22, 2018 in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 25 Court Street, Cortland New York. Chairman James Sponaugle called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

A. MINUTES – The minutes of the July meeting were reviewed and on the motion of Comm. Prior, second by Comm. Sponaugle were approved for filing.

B. BILLS –The Commission approved the July bills totaling \$48,179.62.

C. REPORTS – **The following reports were highlighted:**

1. YTD Budget Balances -

The Commission reviewed the account lines and percentages expended.

2. Overtime –

Accumulated hours worked for the month of July totaled 986.25 hours, compared to 1178.50 hours for the same period in 2017, reflecting a monthly decrease of 192.25 hours from 2017, but a year-to-date increase of 61.75 hours.

3. Other Activities -

Calls for service have decreased by 568 for the month compared to 2017 and also decreased by 3260 year-to-date.

4. SPCA Report -

The SPCA report was reviewed with note of 22 complaints handled for the month, 32 after-hours calls year-to-date, and 30 tickets issued year-to-date.

5. Officers Activities Breakdown –

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano noted low activities for the month, and further noted the higher statistics for time off during July.

6. Parking Tickets -

Parking tickets issued for the month of July totaled 333.

7. Arrest Breakdown -

The Chief reviewed this report with the Commission, noting penal law arrests are down by 248, but the grand total of all arrests is greater by 273 than this time in 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY – The Chief updated the Commission regarding details of the Junior Police Academy, as conducted by SRO Ptl. Robert Reyngoudt. The Chief noted there were no overtime costs for this program and with the mayor looking to restrict spending, it is hope this program will not be included in the budget cuts. Commissioner Hansen was particularly impressed with the Program and the continuing effects it has produced with her son.

NEW BUSINESS

A. SUNY RETURN - The Chief apprised the Commission regarding the return of the SUNY students this coming weekend.

B. 2019 BUDGET – The Chief acquainted the Commission with the status of the 2019 budget, in that Mr. Cook has all other department budgets completed, but with our department in arbitration, everyone is waiting for results before completing the figures for next year. Of particular concern is the decrease of the sales tax distribution as determined by the Cortland County legislature in a recent special meeting.

C. SPECIAL EVENTS –

1. 911 Memorial Ceremony –

A 911 Memorial Ceremony will be conducted at 8:30 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at the newly erected monument in Courthouse Park. Details regarding the ceremony were expounded, which will include a 21-gun salute, and a partial street closure.

2. Emergency Services Day –

The second annual *Emergency Services Day*, organized by Community Service Officer Ptl. Jesse Abbott will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at Suggett Park. Special events will include demonstrations by the K9 officers with K9 Lummel and K9 Rush.

3. McMahan Picnic –

The McMahan family has again graciously scheduled a Law Enforcement Picnic for this coming Saturday, August 25, 2018 to be held on their property on West Scott Road, from 11:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION, APPRECIATION, CORRESPONDENCE REPORT -

1. The Chief provided an article on the Junior Police Academy commending the program, the agencies involved, and the workers.
2. Ms. Trish Hansen, Cortland Division Manager (and Police Commissioner) of TLC EMS sent an email to the Chief commending Ptl. Robert Reyngoudt and the other instructors from the Junior Police Academy, while mentioning the behavior improvements she has noticed in her son. The Chief responded to her email.
3. Chairman Jim Sponaugle sent a memo to each of the Junior Police Academy graduates, congratulating them on their successful completion of the program.

B. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

There were no comments.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 3:15 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room. With no further business to discuss, on the motion of Comm. Hansen, second by Comm. Prior, the meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary