

# POLICE COMMISSION

January 25, 2012 Minutes

**PRESENT:** Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner Donald Kline, Chief F. Michael Catalano, and Secretary Diane Ferri.

**ABSENT:** D/C Paul Sandy.

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on January 25, 2012 in the CPD Lounge at City Hall, 25 Court Street, Cortland New York. Commissioner Thomas O'Mara called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

**A. MINUTES** – On the motion of Comm. Kline, seconded by Comm. O'Mara, the Commission approved the minutes of the December 28<sup>th</sup> meeting as written.

**B. BILLS** – The Commission reviewed the bills in the amount of \$27,438.70 for the month of December. On the motion of Comm. Kline, seconded by Comm. O'Mara were approved as written and placed on file.

**The following bills were highlighted:**

- |                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| • 3 tasers/holsters with warranty | \$ 2,904.65 |
| • Tires                           | \$ 2,997.36 |
| • Meals for prisoners 11/16-12/11 | \$ 93.38    |

**C. REPORTS** –

**The following reports were highlighted:**

**1. Vehicle Repairs** –

With the Deputy Chief's absence, the Chief noted there was no unusual vehicle maintenance for December. Gasoline costs averaged \$2.939096/gal for 1751.6 gallons of gasoline. He further noted new cars have been ordered, in accordance with the 2012 budget schedule.

**2. Overtime** –

The Commission reviewed the overtime breakdown by category. Accumulated hours worked for the month of December totaled 632.00 hours, compared to 761.50 hours for the same period in 2010 and reflects a 129.50-hour decrease for the month and a 548.00-hour decrease compared to 2010.

**3. Other Activities Report** –

The Chief noted 20,441 calls for service for the year, an increase of 2,067 from 2010. Persons incarcerated increased by 370 for the year, and cars towed increased by 98.

**4. SPCA Animal Control Report** –

The Chief noted 420 complaints answered for the year, with 119 after hours calls.

**5. Arrest Breakdown** –

The Commission reviewed the arrest breakdown for the year with total arrests at 6013, representing an increase of 1337 arrests compared to 2010. DWI arrests, Aggravated

Unlicensed Operation, total penal law arrests, SUNY student arrests and TC-3 student arrests have all increased.

On the motion of Comm. Kline, seconded by Comm. O'Mara and carried, the reports were accepted for filing.

### ***OLD BUSINESS***

**COMMISSIONER SMITH RESIGNATION:** - The Chief updated the Commission regarding the recent resignation letter tendered by Commissioner Ralph Smith, in which he cited scheduling conflicts at work as his primary reason for resigning. The Chief noted he has spoken to the Mayor and submitted a name for the Mayor's consideration. He stated the Mayor plans to address it with the Common Council in February.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

**STEP GRANT AWARD** – The Chief apprised the Commission the department has been awarded \$5265.00 for the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant, to monitor aggressive driving activities in selective areas of the city. He further noted no Buckle Up New York funds have been awarded.

### ***OTHER BUSINESS***

#### **A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –**

1. Ms. Jennifer Benedict sent an email to Chief Catalano, commending Ptl. Peter Wright for “a job well done”, for his efforts at assisting her after a recent MVA. The Chief responded to her email.
2. Sgt. Michael Nichols and Ptl. Melissa Pym each received a Certificate of Completion from the United States Environmental Agency for successful completion of *EPA's Methamphetamine Laboratory Training Program: First Responder Awareness & Operations*.
3. Cub Scout Pack 188 sent a thank you note to Ptl. Joseph Slater for his safety presentation at their meeting.
4. Capt. Shane and Dorothy Budd, Salvation Army, sent a thank you letter to the department for helping with meeting their Christmas goals.

#### **B. CORRESPONDENCE –**

1. The Cortland Area Communities That Care sent a letter to Chief Catalano thanking him for being a judge at their recent Cortland Youth of the Year Awards.
2. Commissioner Ralph Smith tendered his letter of resignation to Chief Catalano. Chief Catalano accepted his letter, with regret and thanked him for his service to the community.

#### **C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –**

There were no comments.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 29, 2012** at 3:15 p.m. in the CPD Lounge. With no further business to discuss, on the motion of Comm. Kline and seconded by Comm. O'Mara, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri  
Confidential Secretary