

POLICE COMMISSION

March 28, 2012 Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner James Sponaugle, Chief F. Michael Catalano, and Secretary Diane Ferri.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Donald Kline and D/C Paul Sandy.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on March 28, 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. Sponaugle, seconded by Comm. O'Mara, the Commission approved the minutes of the February 29th meeting as written.

B. BILLS – The Commission reviewed the bills in the amount of \$28,594.53 for the month of February. On the motion of Comm. Sponaugle, seconded by Comm. O'Mara were approved as written and placed on file.

The following bills were highlighted:

• Vehicle operation (gasoline) 2025.3 gals @\$2.767407/gallon	\$ 5,604.83
• Regular vehicle maintenance	\$ 2,570.59
• Tactical officers' training	\$ 1,799.91
• Sample targets for Range, ammunition	\$ 4,484.00

C. REPORTS –

The following reports were highlighted:

1 Overtime –

The Commission reviewed the overtime breakdown by category. Accumulated hours worked for the month of February totaled 631.50 hours, compared to 963.25 hours for the same period in 2011, reflecting a 331.75-hour decrease for the month, and a 582.75 hour decrease year-to-date.

3. Other Activities Report –

The Chief noted 1588 calls for service, indicating an increase of 76 calls from the 2011 monthly total of 1512 and a year-to-date increase of 24 over 2011. Persons incarcerated increased by 12, and cars towed decreased by 6.

4. SPCA Animal Control Report –

The Chief noted 41 complaints for the month answered, with 14 after hours calls.

5. Arrest Breakdown –

The Commission reviewed the arrest breakdown with total arrests at 427, representing an increase of 3 arrests compared to 2011. DWI arrests and SUNY student arrests have increased; TC-3 student arrests have decreased.

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

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY SURVEY: - The Chief updated the Commission regarding the status of the Community Survey, which was mailed February 23rd, with a return date request for March 23rd. Of the 500 surveys mailed, 207 were returned and processed by SUNY Cortland and 53 have been returned to CPD as undeliverable. The SUNY Cortland faculty administrating the survey recommended a second mailing in exchange for those returned as undeliverable, with a return date of April 6.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. MAYOR’S STATE OF THE CITY REPORT** – The Chief apprised the Commission of the Mayor’s recent address on the “State of the City”. He noted the mayor had commented on the budget and expressed a number of programs and plans he would like generated during his term. He further noted the state of the City is “going well”.
- B. SAINT PATRICK’S DAY** – in an unannounced addition to the agenda for the meeting, Chief Catalano discussed with the Commission the St. Patrick’s Day festivities observed by many of the students this year. The “holiday” fell on a Saturday, with warm and sunny weather, creating significant overtime. No major incidents were reported, however. Commissioner O’Mara questioned Chief Catalano about Paddy’s Pub, which opened recently.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –

1. Mr. Ray Jones, of Cleveland Ohio, sent a thank you card to Sgt. Cheyenne Cute for his professional manner and timely response to assistance needed by Mr. Jones’ son, who is a Cortland resident.
2. Sheriff Kevin Walsh sent a thank you letter for the donation by the department of \$100 towards the *Air One Foundation* to support the continuance of the helicopter services.
3. Joyce Price, Fundraising Coordinator for *MDA Lock-UP* sent a thank you letter to D/C Paul Sandy for his fundraising efforts with this Muscular Dystrophy event.
4. Mr. Louis Vanaria sent a thank you letter to Chief Catalano for the department’s assistance in renewing his handicapped parking permit.
5. Ptl. Joseph Slater and Ptl. Joseph Peters each received a Certificate of Attendance from the State of New York DCJS for attending a *DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Refresher Course*.

B. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. The Chief sent a letter to Captain Steve Rotunno, of CNYACOP to nominate Ptl. Kenneth Bush as a candidate for the CNYACOP Law Enforcement Commendation Award.
2. D/C Sandy sent a letter to all taxi cab business owners with regards to proposed changes to the City Code regarding taxicabs, in which he is pursuing increased fees they can

charge for fares, as well as increased charges they would pay to operate within the city limits.

3. Chief Catalano responded to a letter written erroneously to the Police Commission with regard to a complaint against the Cortland Water Department. He further forwarded the original letter and his response to all appropriate involved entities.

C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

Comments were tendered during the course of the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 25, 2012** at 3:15 p.m. in the CPD Lounge. With no further business to discuss, on the motion of Comm. Sponaugle and seconded by Comm. O'Mara, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary