

POLICE COMMISSION

May 23, 2012 Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner Donald Kline, Commissioner James Sponaugle, Chief F. Michael Catalano, D/C Paul Sandy, and Secretary Diane Ferri.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on May 23, 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. Kline, the Commission approved the minutes of the April 25th meeting as written.

B. BILLS – The Commission reviewed the bills in the amount of \$20,409.66 for the month of April. On the motion of Comm. Sponaugle, seconded by Comm. Kline were approved as written and placed on file.

The following bills were highlighted:

• Equipment/labor for the “switch out” with vehicles	\$	3,804.84
• Vehicle operation (gasoline) 2277.2 gals @\$3.229839/gallon	\$	7,354.99
• Regular vehicle maintenance	\$	1,358.44
• Installation and testing for new voice recorder	\$	1,343.34
• Prisoner meals	\$	75.38

C. REPORTS –

The following reports were highlighted:

1 Vehicle Maintenance – the Deputy Chief reported 2 vehicles had been sold at auction with the proceeds to be returned to our budget to offset the cost of purchasing and equipping 3 new vehicles. He noted the Director of Administration and Finance and the Common Council are in agreement with this plan. Tire sizes on some of these new vehicles have changed, necessitating the purchase of additional tires.

2. Overtime –

The Commission reviewed the overtime breakdown by category. Accumulated hours worked for the month of April totaled 987.00 hours, compared to 938.25 hours for the same period in 2011, reflecting a 48.75-hour increase for the month, and a 48.75 hour increase year-to-date.

3. Other Activities Report –

The Chief noted 1679 calls for service, indicating a decrease of 182 calls from the 2011 monthly total of 1861 and a year-to-date decrease of 93 from 2011. Persons incarcerated increased by 9, and cars towed increased by 11. Two new categories were added to this report. ABC underage arrests for April was 41; comparative figures will be available by the next meeting. MVAs for the month totaled 39 and as noted previously, comparative statistics will be available for the next month's report.

4. SPCA Animal Control Report –

The Chief noted 37 complaints for the month answered, 148 calls year-to-date, with 12 after-hour calls for the month of April.

5. Officers Activities Breakdown –

Some remarkable statistics were garnered by some of the officers, notably Ptl. Ryan Riley with 3 DWI's, 27 V&T's and parking tickets. Ptl. Jeffrey Fitts made 4 DWI arrests for the month.

6. Arrest Breakdown –

The Commission reviewed the arrest breakdown with total arrests at 456, representing a decrease of 17 arrests compared to 2011. DWI arrests increased by 19 and SUNY student arrests have decreased.

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

OLD BUSINESS

A. SPRING FLING/MONROE FEST – The Chief updated the Commission with the outcome from the Spring Fling and associated block party called the “Monroe Fest”. He stated letters had been mailed to neighborhood residents to ensure compliance. Only 2 houses hosted parties of noticeable size, but there were many small house parties. The decline in the “fest” may be in part due to hosts no longer providing alcohol; the Chief further noted a distinctly decreased attendance by out of town non-students.

B. SUNY GRADUATION – the Chief commented on the SUNY graduation held Sunday, May 13, Mother's Day weekend. Nothing noteworthy occurred, thankfully.

C. LAWMAN OF THE YEAR – As mentioned earlier, Ptl. Kenneth Bush was nominated for the Lawman of the Year at the awards dinner on May 21; however, he was not awarded. The Committee did procure gifts for all the nominees. Additionally, Ptl. Roger Stafford was noted for outstanding achievement last year. The committee also presented an award to the Citizen's Award winner, Ms. Samantha Noll, for her efforts and assistance in the capture of a robbery suspect.

D. SURVEY – the Chief noted the survey has been completed, returned and paperwork has been received from Dr. Kendrick. The results showed mostly favorable with almost 50% returned of the 500 surveys originally mailed. He further stated he plans to meet with Dr. Kendrick to discuss the best way to present the findings to the community. Drugs and underage drinking were noted to be the most bothersome issues to city residents.

NEW BUSINESS

MCGRUFF GOLF TOURNAMENT – The Chief apprised the Commission of the 2012 McGruff Golf Tournament, the sole fund raising event for the McGruff Program. The tournament is scheduled for 6/21/12 at the Elm Tree Golf Course and is sponsored by the

Cortland Rotary Breakfast Club. Tickets are \$240 for four players. Sgt. Elizabeth Starr oversees the McGruff Program.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –

1. Sgt. Sean Byrnes and Ptl. Kyle Telfer each received a Certificate of Completion from the State of New York Fire Training Certificate for completion of the *Clandestine Drug Lab Awareness* course.
2. D/C Sandy received a thank you note from Mr. John Chavez, a TC3 student, for a letter of reference the DC wrote for him.
3. Asst. Fire Chief Friedman sent a letter to Chief Catalano commending Ptl. Kimberly Gerdus, Ptl. Daniel Mones, Ptl. William Bernheim, and Ptl. Kyle Green for their efforts and assistance at a recent fire.
4. Lt. David Guerrero received a Certificate of Attendance from the NYSACOP for attending a session recently on the topic of *AMBER Alert & Missing Child Cases*.
5. Sgt. Cheyenne Cute and Ptl. Roger Stafford each received a Certificate of Completion from the Glock Professional *Armorer's Course*.
6. Sgt. Michael Nichols and Ptl. Ryan Riley each received a Certificate of Completion from the Department of Homeland Security Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for successful completion of the *SAR Line Officer Training*.
7. Ptl. Ryan Riley received a Certificate of Completion from the Department of Homeland Security Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for successful completion of the *Drug Law Enforcement Training Program*.
8. Ptl. Kenneth Bush received a Certificate of Training from Combined Tactical Systems for successful completion of *training and certification as a Less Lethal Instructor in the use of Less Lethal Munitions*.
9. Ptl. Debra Barber received a Certificate Confirmation from the National Child Passenger Safety Program as a *Certified Technician* through 5/10/2014 for child safety restraints.

B. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. Chief Catalano sent a letter to Robert Shafer, of Riehlman, Shafer & Shafer regarding the taxicab license for Mr. Brian Metcalf.
2. Chief Catalano received a notice from the STLEMA of its 30th annual Police Memorial Week activities.
3. Sgt. Cheyenne Cute wrote a letter to the Cortlandville Volunteer Fire Department thanking them for the use of the Regional Training Facility for the Glock Armorer's Course.
4. Chief Catalano received an invitation to attend the Leadership Cortland "Eyes 4ward" event.
5. Ms. Katelyn Sanders sent the PD a letter and resume asking for sponsorship in the Rural Police Training Academy and employment following successful completion. The Chief responded to her letter.

C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

Comm. Sponaugle gave the Chief a list of hazardous locations to be noted at the department head meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 27, 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 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary