

# POLICE COMMISSION

January 23, 2013 Minutes

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

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on January 23, 2013 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, second by Comm. Sponaugle, the Commission approved the minutes of the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting as written.

**B. BILLS** – The Commission reviewed the bills in the amount of \$33,742.79 for the month of December and year-end billing. On the motion of Comm. Kline, seconded by Comm. Sponaugle were approved as written and placed on file.

**The following bills were highlighted:**

√ Lobby case for display	\$ 1,819.71
√ New holsters with belt adjusters/	\$ 2,761.80
√ Service agreement for voice recorder	\$ 2,865.00

## **C. REPORTS** –

**The following reports were highlighted:**

**1. Vehicle Maintenance Reports** –

C-07	Replace heater hose assembly	\$ 152.98
C-14	Replace starter	\$ 434.39
C-18	Replace water pump, refill antifreeze	\$ 195.72
C-19	Replace front air dam, install deflector	\$ 103.06

**2. Sick Report** –

Sick time used continued to be greater than 2011 with a total sick time used for the year of 1907 hours compared to 1088 hours in 2011.

**3. Overtime** –

Accumulated hours worked for the month of December totaled 780.75 hours, compared to 632.00 hours for the same period in 2011, reflecting a 148.75-hour increase for the month, with a 303.00 hour decrease for the year. County Court hours increased by 194.25 hours over last year; and the Drug Task Force figures totaled 508.25 hours total for the year. The “Holiday Bonus” line increased by 136.50 hours for 2012, due mainly to the double-time expense for holidays worked.

**4. Other Activities Report** –

The Chief noted 1476 calls for service, indicating a decrease of 80 calls from the 2011 monthly total of 1556 and a year-to-date decrease of 544 from 2011. Persons incarcerated decreased by 6, while cars towed increased by 3. ABC underage arrests for the year totaled 380; compared to 449 in 2011. MVAs 475 compared to 559 for 2011.

**5. SPCA Animal Control Report –**

Animal complaints answered for the year totaled 525, and 156 after-hour calls for 2012.

**6. Officers Activities Breakdown –**

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano included 17 DWI arrests for the month, 5 of which were garnered by Ptl. Kenneth Pym. Ptl. Bradley Becket was credited with 43 V&T tickets.

**7. Arrest Breakdown –**

The Commission reviewed the arrest breakdown with total arrests at 329, representing a year-to-date decrease of 947 arrests compared to 2011. DWI arrests increased by 36 year-to-date and SUNY student arrests continue to decrease. TC-3 student arrests have stabilized for now, with 107 arrests for 2012.

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

***OLD BUSINESS***

**BUDGET YEAR-END BALANCE –** The year-end budget balances were reviewed in tandem with the monthly reports, during which time the Chief noted a final surplus balance of \$278,013.36 to be returned to the city minus some encumbrance requests.

***NEW BUSINESS***

**REAPPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS –** The Chief apprised the Commission of the rotation of their reappointments, in accordance with completing terms of retired commissioners and commencing their own 3-year appointments. Commissioners Kline and Sponaugle will both be reappointed effected 2/1/13 and Commissioner O'Mara will be reappointed in 2014.

***OTHER BUSINESS***

**A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –**

1. Sgt. Daniel Johnson and Sgt. Cheyenne Cute each received a Certificate of Completion for successfully completing the *Hostage Negotiation* Course presented by the Syracuse Police Department.
2. Ptl. Brendan Byrnes and Ptl. Kenneth Pym each received a Certificate of Attendance for successfully completing a *LEOKA Officer Safety and Survival* Course presented by the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).
3. Chief Catalano wrote a thank you letter to the Senior Citizens Tenants Association of 42 Church Street for the donation of \$100.00 as given to the McGruff Program.
4. D/C Paul Sandy received an email from Mr. Mack Cook, director of Finance and Administration, thanking him for his efforts to procure more affordable healthcare for city employees and retirees.

**B. CORRESPONDENCE –**

Chief Catalano received a letter from Ms. Whitney Meeker expressing her concerns about the “blatant disregard’ for the 15 mile-per-hour speed limit sign near Smith Elementary School. He responded to her letter.

**C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –**

1. Comm. Sponaugle asked about supervision for the current cleaning staff. The Deputy Chief explained the most recent updates pursuant to Mr. Avery’s retirement as well as other buildings and grounds issues; i.e. heat, the Police Garage plumbing and the like.
2. Comm. Sponaugle asked about the new NYS Gun Control Law vs. federal legislation.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 27, 2013** 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. Sponaugle, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri  
Confidential Secretary