

POLICE COMMISSION

April 23, 2014 Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner James Sponaugle, Chief F. Michael Catalano, Sarah Bullock, 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 April 23, 2014 in the CPD Lounge at City Hall, 25 Court Street, Cortland New York. Comm. Thomas O'Mara called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.

A. MINUTES – On the motion of Comm. Sponaugle, second by Comm. O'Mara, the Commission approved the minutes of the March meeting as written.

B. BILLS –The Commission reviewed the March bills and on the motion of Comm. O'Mara, second by Comm. Sponaugle, were approved and placed on file.

C. REPORTS –

The following reports were highlighted:

1. Year-to-Date Budget Report –

The Commission reviewed the MUNIS system report, highlighting balances, encumbrances, and % age of funding expended.

2. Overtime –

Accumulated hours worked for the month of March totaled 664.50 hours, compared to 657.00 hours for the same period in 2013, reflecting a 7.50-hour increase for the month, and 39.0 hours year-to-date from 2013.

3. Vehicles -

In the Deputy Chief's absence, vehicle maintenance costs were reviewed.

4. Other Activities Report –

The Commission reviewed the report while the Chief highlighted some of the statistical information. Overall, service requests decreased for the month by 117 calls.

5. SPCA Animal Control Report –

Animal complaints answered totaled 15 (57 calls year-to-date) with 3 after-hour call for the month.

6. Officers Activities Breakdown –

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano included 19 DWI arrests for the month, 6 of which were issued by Ptl. Ryan Riley. A total of 210 V&T tickets written in the month of March with 38 being issued by Ptl. Ryan Riley and another 23 by Ptl. Nathan Moran. Felony arrests totaled 35 with 14 arrests made by Ptl. Daniel Mones.

7. Parking Ticket Report –

Parking tickets issued increased again from the same time last year as well as from 2012.

8. Arrest Breakdown –

Arrest activity was reviewed by category and noted totals have decreased from last year.

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

OLD BUSINESS

SOCIAL HOST LAW – The Chief updated the Commission regarding the newly approved "Social Host Law" received back from NY State, allowing the enforcement of the law to commence. With that, 2 arrests have already been made, citing the Social Host Law, and the Chief is confident it will be effective with the upcoming Spring Fling as sponsored by SUNY Cortland.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CNYACOP AWARDS - The Chief informed the Commission of the upcoming CNY Association of Chiefs of Police Awards banquet to be held on 4/28/14 at Justin's Grill in Syracuse and his nomination of Ptl. Anthony Natoli and Ptl. Jesse Abbott. He reported on the incident involving a man in a truck in front of the Cortland County Sheriff's Office with a loaded shotgun and the response of these 2 officers.

B. CORTLAND COUNTY LAWMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD - The Chief apprised the Commission of the date of the 2014 Cortland County Lawman of the Year Awards Dinner to be held on 5/19/14 at the Elks Club in Cortland. He has nominated Ptl. Anthony Natoli and Ptl. Jesse Abbott for the incident mentioned above. A Special Recognition Award is also being nominated for Ptl. Melissa Eccleston based on her work performance in 2013.

C. MOBILE COMMAND VEHICLE - The Chief recounted to the Commission a recent opportunity to bid on a used mobile command vehicle currently for sale on Long Island. Discussion ensued regarding details and the use of such a vehicle.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –

1. Lt. David Guerrero and Sgt. Seth Rowland each received a Certificate of Completion certifying they attended the *Police Leadership and Planning* course sponsored by the New York Tactical Officers Association (NYTOA).
2. Ptl. Chadd Hines received a Certificate of Attendance for participating in the *Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Seminar* sponsored by the State of New York DCJS.
3. Sgt. Sean Byrnes and Ptl. Bradley Becker each received a Certificate of Attendance for participating in the *"Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Seminar"* sponsored by the State of New York DCJS.
4. Sgt. Sean Byrnes received a Certificate of Completion from the NYS Traffic Incident Management Committee for successful completion of the *Train-the-Trainer Course in Traffic Incident Management for Responders*.

5. Ms. Maggie Stevens sent an email to Chief Catalano commending Sgt. Michael Nichols and Ptl. Andrew SanJule for their "compassionate yet no nonsense approach" in dealing with an issue with a tenant.
6. Ms. Connie Sorrells wrote a note of thanks to Ptl. Brendan Byrnes for his polite and professional manner during a recent incident. Chief Catalano responded to her note.
7. Chief Catalano received a thank you card from Amy Graham of YWCA for his support of a recent presentation given at their venue, "*I Survived*" by Sayeh Rivazfar.

B. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. Chief Catalano received a letter of thanks from Larry VanDeValk, Executive Director of LEAD NY for meeting with the members of his class for an interview.
2. Chief Catalano wrote a letter to the Cortland County Lawman of the Year Committee Chairman nominating Ptl. Anthony Natoli and Ptl. Jesse Abbott as candidates for Lawman of the Year Award. He further submitted Ptl. Melissa Eccleston as a candidate for the "Outstanding Achievement" recognition for 2013.

C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

There were no comments to consider.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 28, 2014** 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 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary