

# POLICE COMMISSION

April 22, 2015 Minutes

**PRESENT:** Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner James Sponaule, Commissioner Eric Prior, Chief F. Michael Catalano, & Secretary Diane Ferri.

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

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## ***CALL TO ORDER***

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on April 22, 2015 in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 25 Court Street, Cortland New York. Comm. Thomas O'Mara called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

**A. MINUTES** – On the motion of Comm. Sponaule second by Comm. Prior, the Commission approved the minutes of the March meeting as written.

**B. BILLS** –The Commission reviewed the March bills totaling \$64,893.82 and on the motion of Comm. Prior, second by Comm. Sponaule, 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 budgetary reports.

**2. Vehicle Maintenance -**

In the Deputy Chief's absence, no update was provided.

**3. Overtime –**

Accumulated hours worked for the month of March totaled 797.00 hours, compared to 664.50 hours for the same period in 2014, reflecting a 132.5-hour increase for the month from 2014 and a 24.00-hour increase year-to-date.

**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 126 calls, year-to-date increase of 138 calls. The Chief also noted "Domestic Incidents" with 49 calls this month, 110 year-to-date; and "Mental Health Reports" 23 calls and 59 year-to-date.

**5. SPCA Animal Control Report –**

Animal complaints answered totaled 26 with 5 after-hour calls for the month.

**6. Officers Activities Breakdown –**

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano included 10 DWI arrests for the month, 3 of which were made by Ptl. Brian Myers, and 2 each by Ptl. Melissa Eccleston and Ptl. Nathan Moran. A total of 164 V&T tickets were written in the month of March, 23 were issued by Ptl. Nathan Moran, 15 by Ptl. Ryan Riley, and 14 each by Ptl. Brendan Byrnes and Ptl. Anthony Natoli. Ptl. Joseph Peters issued 51 parking tickets.

**7. Arrest Breakdown –**

Arrest activity was reviewed by category.

On the motion of Comm. Sponaule, second by Comm. Prior and carried, the reports were accepted for filing.

## ***OLD BUSINESS***

### **SPILLMAN - LIVE ON 4/20 -**

The Chief updated the Commission on the status of the new records management/CAD system being utilized by the 911 Center, University Police, Cortland County Sheriff's Office, Cortland Fire Department and Cortland Police Department. Training continues and the Chief commended Lt. David Guerrero and Sgt. Penny Guerrero for their work and efforts with the new system.

## ***NEW BUSINESS***

- A. CITY FACILITIES STUDY:** The Chief apprised the Commission of a study the City is currently undertaking due to the additional space the Court System is requiring. The Mayor is requesting input from the city Commissions.
- B. SPRING FLING 4/25 -** The Chief notified the Commission of the upcoming College festivities and noted other agencies are scaling back on their participation in the policing of this upcoming weekend. Weather will be a factor as well.
- C. CNYACOP AWARDS BANQUET -** The Chief invited and advised the Commission of the upcoming Awards Banquet to be held on 4/27/15 at Drumlins in Syracuse. Ptl. Adam Troyer and Ptl Jared Aiken have been nominated for this award for their efforts to save an elderly gentleman whose home was on fire. The Chief needs an rsvp by 4/24/15 and the cost is \$25.00 each.
- D. BEER TASTING EVENT 5/2 -** The Chief informed the Commission of the upcoming beer-tasting event, scheduled for May 2nd in the Marketplace Mall Parking Lot. This event is being patterned after a similar activity held during Pumkinfest last year.

## ***OTHER BUSINESS***

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

Lt. Guerrero received an email from Ms Erica Theise thanking him for the "opportunity to go on a ride along". She rode with Ptl. Ryan Gross and found him to be "extremely polite and professional".

### **B. CORRESPONDENCE -**

The Chief read 2 letters he received from a Mrs. Katherine Wright, one of which was a copy of a letter her father-in-law had received from former Chief Michael Canestaro on December 28, 1959. The other letter, from Mrs. Wright, elucidated on the history that precipitated the original letter and contained a donation. The Chief forwarded her \$50 to the Junior Police Academy and responded to her letter.

### **C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –**

Commissioner Sponaugle posed a question regarding training and use of force, body cameras, and any defensive tactics the department is considering, to which the Chief responded.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 27, 2015** at 3:15 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room. With no further business to discuss, on the motion of Comm. Prior, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri  
Confidential Secretary