

POLICE COMMISSION

June 24, 2015 Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas O'Mara, Commissioner James Sponaule, Commissioner Eric Prior, Chief F. Michael Catalano, and Deputy Chief Paul Sandy.

EXCUSED: Secretary Diane Ferri.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on June 27, 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. Prior, second by Comm. Sponaule, the Commission approved the minutes of the May meeting as written.

B. BILLS –The Commission reviewed the May bills totaling \$48,288.10 and on the motion of Comm. Sponaule, second by Comm. Prior, were approved and placed on file.

C. REPORTS – The following reports were highlighted:

1. Vehicle Maintenance -

The Deputy Chief apprised the Commission on the status of vehicles, including the bicycles.

2. Overtime –

Accumulated hours worked for the month of May totaled 1155.75 hours, compared to 1453.75 hours for the same period in 2014, reflecting a 298.0-hour decrease for the month from 2014 but a 288.50-hour increase year-to-date. Some overtime will be reimbursed via grants.

3. 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 222 calls, year-to-date increase of 190 calls. The Chief also noted "Domestic Incidents" with 61 calls this month, 228 year-to-date; and "Mental Health Reports" 33 calls and 119 year-to-date.

4. SPCA Animal Control Report –

The new report noted complaints answered totaled 25 with 1 after-hour call for the month.

5. Officers Activities Breakdown –

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano included 3 DWI arrests for the month, made by 3 different officers. A total of 160 V&T tickets were written in the month of May, 30 were issued by Ptl. Bradley Becker, 26 by Ptl. Brendan Byrnes, and 187 by Ptl. Brian Myers.

6. Arrest Breakdown –

Arrest activity was reviewed by category.

7. Bike Report -

The bike patrol has been reinstated after its winter "hiatus".

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

OLD BUSINESS

TRU MOU - The Chief noted they are working with Cortland County Sheriff's Office, based on the Common Council approval, for a Memorandum of Understanding to expand the TRU to include officers from the Sheriff's Office.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. SUMMER EVENTS** - The Chief reviewed the planned downtown summer events with the Commission, including the Summer Concert Series, the Brockway Truck Show, the Taste of Downtown, and the Arts/Wine Fest.
- B. SHARED FACILITY** - The Commission discussed recent considerations the Mayor has been reviewing with the Facility Needs Committee, including sharing between police/fire; a new jail for the County, grants available for facilities planning and options with the Sheriff's Office and City Fire Department.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION REPORT –

- 1. Sgt. Cheyenne Cute received a Certificate of Attendance in recognition of satisfactory completion of the NYS Children's Justice Task Force *Forensic Interviewing Best Practices*.
- 2. Ptl. Roger Stafford received a Certificate of Acknowledgement as a certified *Maintenance Trainer for Police Patrol, Tracking, Article Search/Scout, and Narcotics Detection Canine Teams*.
- 3. Chief Catalano received a thank you letter from Ithaca College for the assistance provided during their recent 2015 Annual Mountain Bike School, and mentioned in particular Lt. David Guerrero and Ptl. Roger Stafford.

B. CORRESPONDENCE -

- 1. Chief Catalano received a letter from Major Donald Faughnan, Troop C NYSP Commander, acknowledging receipt of the Chief's letter of thanks for their assistance with the Spring Fling event and a recent homicide.
- 2. Chief Catalano received a letter of invitation from the Cortland County Dairy Promotion Committee, inviting him to be a guest at the June Dairy Kickoff Breakfast, sponsored by the Cortland County Dairy Promotion Committee.
- 3. Chief Catalano sent a letter to Mr. Alexander Lyon and Mrs. Melissa Sheriff, notifying them of the decision to fill the PEO position.

C. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

There were no comments to be considered.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **July 22, 2015** at 3:15 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room. With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary