

POLICE COMMISSION

August 26, 2015 Minutes

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

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Police Commission was held on August 26, 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. Sponaugle, second by Comm. O'Mara, the Commission approved the minutes of the July meeting as written.

B. BILLS –The Commission reviewed the July bills totaling \$18,757.17 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. 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 July totaled 792.25 hours, compared to 1069.25 hours for the same period in 2014, reflecting a 277.00-hour decrease for the month from 2014 and a 187.75-hour increase year-to-date. Short shift issues will continue to be an issue in the months ahead.

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 814 calls, year-to-date decrease of 774 calls. The Chief also noted "Domestic Incidents" with 73 calls this month, 377 year-to-date; and "Mental Health Reports" 39 calls and 196 year-to-date. No figures from last year are available as of yet.

4. SPCA Animal Control Report –

SPCA Investigator William Carr provided the Commission, via email, a copy of the Warning Notice currently in use by the SPCA. The new report broke down cruelty dispositions and added the number of written warnings given for the month.

5. Officers Activities Breakdown –

Statistics highlighted by Chief Catalano included 6 DWI arrests for the month. A total of 88 V&T tickets were written in the month of July, 22 were issued by Ptl. Brian Myers.

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

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET - The Chief updated the Commission on the status of the budget for 2016, noting Mr. Cook, Administration and Finance Department Director, had calculated the line items for each department. The new protocol is for the departments to lobby for additional funds where needed during the budgeting process. The Common Council will conduct workshops on 9/3, 9/8 and 9/17 if need be.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. BIKES** - The Deputy Chief apprised the Commission of the final outcome of the recent bike sale, with funds to be donated to the Deer fund. General discussion ensued regarding Mr. Kassim Kone and his efforts to provide refurbished bicycles to Mali.
- B. SUNY CORTLAND** - the Chief noted the college students will be returning this coming weekend, 8/28-8/29.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. COMMENDATION, APPRECIATION, CORRESPONDENCE REPORT -

- 1. Mr. Phil Rose, Prevention Network, sent a note to the Chief thanking him for his input regarding the Social Host Ordinance in place here in Cortland.
- 2. Chief Catalano sent a letter to School Guard Maxine Butler, thanking her for her recent \$50 donation to the Junior Police Academy.
- 3. Chief Catalano received a Certificate of Attendance for attending the various executive level training sessions hosted by the NYS Association of Chiefs of Police.
- 4. Ptl. Chadd Hines and Ptl. Patrick O'Donnell each received a Certificate of Completion for successfully completing the *Master Operator/Instructor Course* for the TL Training Lab Use-of-Force Simulation System.
- 5. Chief Catalano sent a thank you letter to a citizen, who desired to remain anonymous, for their generous donation of \$20,000.00 to the department.

B. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS –

- 1. Comm. Prior mentioned the recent decision to reduce security at CRMC. Discussion ensued regarding the impact on this department.
- 2. Comm. O'Mara asked about the body camera issue with regards to our department.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **September 23, 2015** at 3:15 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room. With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Ferri
Confidential Secretary