

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25TH, 2008 MEETING

6:00 PM (Non-Public) 7:00 PM (Public)
Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers

Gerald W. Howe, Chairman
John C. Russo
John F. Golumb

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The chairman called the June 25th, 2008 monthly police commission public session to order at 7:02 PM.

Present during public session: Commissioners Howe, Russo, and Golumb, Chief Michael Magnant, Deputy Chief Len DiSesa, and Captain Dave Ferland

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chief Magnant led the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Howe also asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of our men and women in the armed services.

- III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:**
May 21st, 2008.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept the minutes and place them on file.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted to accept the minutes of the May 21st, 2008 meeting and place them on file.

- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. POLICE COMMISSION:

1. **Personnel Items that require action:**

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to appoint Officer Rich Webb to the status of Master Patrolman.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The Board voted unanimously to appoint Officer Rich Webb to the status of Master Patrolman.

B. CHIEF OF POLICE

- 1. Letters of Appreciation** - for Dispatchers Sally Hector and Lynn Thomas for their work on the Master Names Project. Chief Magnant explained that a software changeover left a data base of about half-a-million names that need to be condensed and weeding through for duplicates/triplicates. This is an on-going project. Sally and Lynn agreed to undertake this project in addition to their demanding responsibilities as dispatchers.
- 2. Letter of Appreciation** - Chief Magnant briefly described the content of the Letter of Appreciation from the Commission to all of the sworn and unsworn personnel who volunteered time and services to the recent very successful Citizen's Police Academy. This academy was completely funded by a generous grant from the Crimestopper's Organization.

The next item on the agenda was the Financial Report, followed by a presentation on the history of the Portsmouth Police Department. Since Capt. Ferland was doing both items, the commission gave him the option to choose which item he wished to do first. The Captain chose to review the financial reports first, and then go on to the oral presentation. Accordingly, Chairman Howe suspended the agenda so that Capt. Ferland could cover the financial report to the commission.

- 3. Financial Report – Capt. Ferland.**
- 4. Oral History of the Portsmouth Police Department – Capt. Ferland.**
Through use of a simple PowerPoint presentation, Capt. Ferland, an able historian, presented a brief but fascinating look at the 400-year history of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire police department. At the conclusion of the presentation, Chief Magnant said he felt that every new officer should view this short history as a part of their FTO program, and the Deputy concurred.
- 5. Outside Work Details** - The next item was the rate set for outside work details. Chief Magnant explained that as a matter of business, the administration reviews the outside work rate every year. A number of contractual and cost factors are considered in the review and the commission has been briefed on these; it was decided that the current outside work rate needs to be raised.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved that the outside work rate be raised from an hourly rate of \$44.50 to an hourly rate of \$46.75, a \$1.25/hr. increase, or 2.8%.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to increase the outside work rate by \$1.25/hr., effective July 1st.

6. Grants & Donations –

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$10,513.80 from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency for DWI Hunter Patrols & Sobriety Checkpoints.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant from New Hampshire Highway Safety and forward on to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved to accept a separate grant in the amount of \$4,870.10 from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency for Portsmouth DWI Patrols.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant from New Hampshire Highway Safety and forward on to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a donation in the amount of \$100 from the Portsmouth Police Ranking Officers' Association in support of the PAL basketball program.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donation from the Portsmouth Police Ranking Officers' Association and forward on to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved to accept a donation in the amount of \$400 from Boynton, Waldron, Doleac, Woodman and Scott, P.A. in support of the PAL basketball program.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donation from Boynton, Waldron, Doleac, Woodman and Scott, P.A., and forward on to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept donations in support of our Police Explorer Cadets as follows:

- \$250 from the Piscataqua Savings Bank
- \$250 from the Portsmouth Auxiliary Police Association
- \$2,000 from the Fuller Foundation, Inc.

- \$1,300 from the Charitable Division of the Rotary Club of Portsmouth
- \$50 from Nancy Novelline-Clayburgh

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donations as noted above and forward them on to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved to accept donations in support of Sergeant Corey MacDonald's successful candidacy for participation in Harvard University's "Driving Government Performance" as follows:

- \$1,000 from ACL, Inc.
- \$100 from Mutualink, Inc.
- \$250 from G. A. Caldicott
- \$2,900 from J. P. Nadeau
- \$750 from J. P. Nadeau, Jr.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donations as noted above and forward them on to the city council for their action.

7. Division and Team Reports

- a. Information Systems Division Report
- b. Accident Investigation Report
- c. Records Division

8. Letter from Roger Williams University – A letter announcing the selection of Portsmouth Captain Janet Champlin as the 2008 recipient of the Excellence in Performance Award from the Roger Williams University Justice System Training and Research Institute.

9. Letters of Thanks and Appreciation from Outside the Department:

- a. Letter of thanks from New Castle Police Chief James Murphy for the help of Lieutenant Stephen DuBois and Detectives Chris Roth and Tom Hart with a recent break-in in New Castle.

C. PATROL SERVICES BUREAU:

Before commencing with the report, Deputy DiSesa took a moment to recognize Officers Tim Black and Nicole Mercer and inform the commission that these officers were successful candidates for appointment to the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) unit. They will begin their training at the DRE School through Police Standards & Training in Concord, NH.

1. Log Activity Reports
2. Emergency Communications Center Report
3. FTO Report

4. **K-9 Report**

5. **Auxiliary Monthly Activity Report**

Auxiliary Officer Chris Carbonneau has completed the academy and is now in the Field Training Program for auxiliaries.

6. **Personnel Out Sick or Injured**

7. **Special Events in the City**

D. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT

E. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

VII. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved that the board accept the division and team reports and place them on file.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the division and team reports and place them on file.

Chairman Howe asked if the Chief, the Deputy and Captain Ferland had any other business for the commission. The Chief and the Deputy did not; Captain Ferland said he wished to clarify that the increase in the outside work rate approved at this meeting would take effect on July 1st, 2008. The Chairman indicated that was the understanding of the commission.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the commission, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved the June 25th, 2008 meeting be adjourned.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion at 7:47 P.M.

**IX. NEXT MEETING: - July 23rd, 2008, 7:00 p.m. – Eileen Dondero Foley
Council Chambers, Portsmouth City Hall**

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant
Reviewed By Commissioner Russo, Clerk*