

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20th, 2011 MEETING

5:00 p.m. (Non-Public) – Chief's Office, Police Dept.
6:00 p.m. (Public) – Wm. Mortimer Conference Room, Police Dept.

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The chairman called the April 20th, 2011 monthly police commission public session to order at 5:09 p.m.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to go into non-public session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues as per RSA 91-A:3, II.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to go into non-public session at 5:10 p.m.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved to come out of non-public session.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to come out of non-public session at 6:02 p.m.

Chairman Howe called the public session back to order at 6:04 p.m. in the Wm. Mortimer Conference Room of the Portsmouth Police Department.

Present during the public session: Commissioners Howe, Russo, and Golumb, Chief David Ferland, Deputy Chief Stephen DuBois, Captain Frank Warchol, Executive Assistant Kathleen Levesque, Officer Nick Small & family, Officer Christina Meyer and family, Officer Kevin McCarthy, K-9 Officer Scott Pearl and K-9 Bruin, various members of the police department, *Herald* reporter Elizabeth Dinan.

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** *Herald* reporter Elizabeth Dinan led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:** March 16th, 2011.

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

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted to accept the minutes of the March 16th, 2011 police commission 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 Detective Scott Study to Master Patrol Officer status.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to appoint Detective Scott Study to Master Patrol Officer status, effective April 30th, his ten-year anniversary date.

B. CHIEF OF POLICE:

- 1. Recognition of Officer Nick Small** – for his actions on the night of February 1st in taking two men into custody after a gun was displayed in a verbal altercation in our downtown hospitality district.
- 2. Recognition of Officer Christina Meyer** – for her successful investigation into a burglary at Subway that resulted in a confession and arrest.
- 3. Recognition of Officer Kevin McCarthy** – for coming to the aid of an elderly Portsmouth resident who became stranded on an icy sidewalk and was unable to call for help.
- 4. Recognition of Messr's. Jeff Cutter, Dave Dawley, and Chris Shoppmeyer** for their gift of a framed photo enlargement of Officer Scott Pearl and his beloved K-9 Wess presented to Officer Pearl in memory of Wess.
- 5. Introduction of K-9 Bruin** - to the commission and the public. Officer Pearl introduced Bruin to those in attendance at the meeting. Scott said Bruin came to us with some training already in place. Scott has found him to be responsive and energetic s he continues his training.
- 6. Grants & Donations:**

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from Gerald W. Howe and his wife, Jocelyn Frechette, in support of the Portsmouth Explorer Post
Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donation and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,062.50 from New Hampshire Highway Safety for "Operation Safe Commute".

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant for "Operation Safe Commute" and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$4,125 from New Hampshire Highway Safety for "Join the NH Clique" seatbelt campaign.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant and forward to the city council for their action.

Chief Ferland turned the next portion of the meeting over to Capt. Warchol, who gave the commission the financial report.

7. Administrative Services Division Report

- a. Financial Reports, by line item
- b. Overtime Report
- c. Personnel and Training Report
- d. Information Systems Report
- e. Records Division Report
- f. Fleet Report
- g. Communications Center Report

Following Captain Warchol's report Deputy DuBois briefed the commission on the following:

- Progress of the Public Safety Strategies Group, the firm that is conducting the organizational study of the police department.
- Crime
 - Home Depot burglary – finishing up the last details of this case following the arrest of the suspect.

- Auto Trends burglary – also in the process of being closed out.
- Currently have two missing persons cases open
 - Divers have gone down into the water around the Thom. Leighton. We can only guesstimate that the missing man ended up there; We have very little to go on in this case.
 - We are actively working the case on Mr. Reinhart and have information we are pursuing.
- We are coming into the road race season and have a number of these events on the calendar. Several have already taken place.
- Portsmouth continues to be a venue-of-choice for groups seeking to express their First Amendment rights. We recently dealt with a peaceful organized protest in front of the Bank of America building on State Street.
- A Segway tour company will be coming to Portsmouth this summer, operating out of the John Paul Jones House. Since these devices are permitted to operate on sidewalks according to New Hampshire law, we are anticipating some level of complaint activity as they begin operation.

Chief Ferland reported the upcoming motor cycle noise initiative which he as been working on with area chiefs and Seacoast Harley Davidson of North Hampton.

The Chief said they have been working through the winter to develop a “motorcycle-noise-isn’t-cool” type of initiative. This is a collaborative effort among Seacoast-area chiefs, and the Harley Davidson dealership in North Hampton. One of the goals is to engage motor cycle groups in the area and partner with them. Chief Ferland feels this partnering element will be the big difference between this and past campaigns on this issue.

The Chief reviewed several thank you notes and cards with the commission. He advised the department has the work session with the city council next Wednesday, the 27th.

Before proceeding with the remainder of the agenda, Chairman Howe noted the recent article in the Herald by reporter Beth Dinan on the Howe’s donation in support of the Explorer Cadet Post, has prompted people to call him asking how they too can donate to support the cadets. He felt Beth’s article was valuable in this regard.

- . **Letters of Thanks and Appreciation from Outside the Department:**
 - a. Thank you letter from Mr. Joe Shanley on behalf of Friends Forever for the Chief’s participation in a fundraising “Roast” of Mayor Tom Ferrini.

b. Thank you letter from the Salem Police Chief Paul Donovan, and SPBA President Sergeant Robert Morin for the Portsmouth Police Honor Guard's presence at the funeral of Det. James Fox of their department.

C. PATROL SERVICES DIVISION:

1. Offense Report
2. Program/Self-Initiated Activity/Directed Patrol Report
3. Animal Control Report
4. Special Teams/Programs report
 - a. K-9 Program
 - b. Seacoast Emergency Response Team
 - c. Field Training Program
 - d. Auxiliary Unit
 - e. Community Relations
5. Personnel Out Sick or Injured

D. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT

E. DETECTIVE DIVISION

VII. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS:

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to 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.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Chairman Howe asked if there was any other business before the commission. There being none, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved the April 20th, 2011 meeting of the police commission be adjourned.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion at 6:41p.m.

IX. NEXT MEETING: *Wednesday, May 18th, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wm. Mortimer Conference Room.*

Kathe

Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant

Reviewed By Commissioner Golumb, Clerk of the Commission

John F. Golumb