

## PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION

### MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2012 MEETING

5:00 p.m. (Non-Public) – Wm. Mortimer Conference Room, Police Dept.

6:00 p.m. (Public) – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, City Hall

John F. Golumb, Chairman

Gerald W. Howe

John C. Russo

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The chairman called the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 monthly police commission public session to order at 5:08 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 5:08 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 5:57 p.m.

**Chairman Howe called the public session back to order at 6:03 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers.**

**Present during the public session:** Commissioners Howe, Russo, and Golumb, Chief Dave Ferland, Deputy Chief Stephen DuBois, Capt. Frank Warchol, Executive Assistant Kathleen Levesque, Officer Eric Kinsman and K-9 Titan

Chairman Howe extended condolences to the family of city negotiator Tom Flygare on behalf of the Commission and the Police Department. Attorney Flygare, passed away suddenly while at work in city hall on Tuesday morning, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Flygare worked closely with the commission on the department's union contracts and other legal matters.

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:**  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 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 December 14<sup>th</sup>, 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:**

As per the revised Charter of the City of Portsmouth, Amendment E, 'Organization', the commission elected a chairman and a clerk of the commission for the 2012 calendar year at its January meeting.

**Action: Commissioner Russo moved** to nominate Commissioner John Golumb to the position of chairman of the commission for 2012.

**Seconded by Commissioner Howe.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The board voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner John F. Golumb chairman of the commission for 2012.

**Action: Commissioner Russo moved** to nominate Commissioner Jerry Howe as clerk of the commission for 2012.

**Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The board voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner Gerald W. Howe clerk of the commission for 2012.

**B. CHIEF OF POLICE:**

**1. Officer Eric Kinsman and K-9 Titan** were recognized for their work at the scene of the attempted kidnapping and carjacking last month. Their work resulted in the recovery of a key piece of evidence.

**2. Recognition of Officer Duane Jacques and Officer Adam Kozlowski** for their work in developing and teaching training programs for the crime scene team. Both officers were not available to attend the commission meeting, so Chief Ferland briefed the commission on their work.

- 3. Public Service Announcements** done by Officer Raizes and Dubois for the 2011 Holiday Season were played for the commission.

The Chief and the Deputy talked about two additional uses being made of social media:

- Establishment of a Facebook page, which was displayed for the commission, to receive public comment and input on the FY'13 police budget. The Facebook page will go live shortly after the end of the commission meeting and Capt. Warchol will manage the site and the incoming information.
- The use of YouTube as a means of notifying the public of unsolved crimes and requesting information on them. This is being done in partnership with Seacoast Crimestoppers, and the results are very promising.

#### **4. Donations:**

**Action: Commissioner Howe moved** to accept a donation in support of the Portsmouth Police Honor Guard in the amount of \$40 from Mr. F. Mastan.

**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 Howe moved** to accept a donation in support of the Portsmouth Police K-9 Unit in the amount of \$40 from Mr. & Mrs. W. Dreher.

**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 Howe moved** to accept a donation in support of the Portsmouth Police Honor Guard in the amount of \$200 from AXL, Inc.

**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.

Chief Ferland briefed the commission on the following items:

- The Christmas and holiday season and events went fairly smoothly, to include First Night.

- We made an arrest today in the Ocean State Job Lots kidnapping attempt.
- We have been very busy with an extended streak of burglaries of businesses, homes, and cars.
- There was an uptick in unattended deaths over the holiday period; these cases are time consuming in nature.

The Chief then turned the meeting over to the Deputy, who briefed the commission on the following:

- We are actively targeting truckers' use of compression brakes on Market Street coming into town off I-95. We want to make out-of-state truckers aware of the city ordinance prohibiting their use. We have been getting a lot of truck noise complaints from residents living along that corridor.
- We continue to move forward on the findings and recommendations of the PSSG study. We had our second internal stakeholder meeting today, and it was a substantive meeting regarding community policing.

The Chief talked about the interns we are currently working with. He considers these young people who come to us through the intern program a valuable asset; their young ideas, and level of education bring new perspectives to the projects they work on for us.

#### **5. Discussion of possible off-site locations for the March 2012 monthly police commission meeting.**

Chief Ferland spoke about having the March meeting somewhere out at Pease in response to the commission's expressed desire to hold a meeting on the north side of town.

Chief Ferland added that this year's session of Leadership Seacoast has begun, and one of the first experiences for members is a police ride-along. Our officers need to accommodate about 30 ride-alongs for people throughout the region between now and mid-February. These ride-alongs are voluntary on the part of the officer. This is another area where Portsmouth officers willingly go out of their way to share their beat and shift with everyday folks so people can become more educated about what modern police work looks and feels like. We always get wonderful feedback about how professional Portsmouth officers are in the interactions witnessed by the Leadership Seacoast members.

The Chief passed along the following thank yous received over the last month or so:

- Thank you from the PHS students for our participation in their dodge ball fundraiser last autumn.
- Thank you to Officer McCarthy from a resident of a Safe Place
- Thank you to the honor guard for posting the colors at the inauguration of Mayor Eric Spear.
- Thank you from the family of a young man with mental health issues who had contacts with police.
- Thank you from the folks at the Margeson Apartments to the officers and cadets who donated their time and hosted a spaghetti dinner for them just before Christmas.
- Thank you from a woman for the help she received from an officer after she ran out of gas.
- A woman who was a victim of a felony expressed sincere appreciation for the outstanding efforts put forth in investigating her case.

Commissioner Golumb asked Deputy Dubois about animal control efforts. The Deputy said ACO Bacon is one of our busiest officers. Every day she fields and responds to many calls from residents concerned about animal welfare issues of both wild and domestic animals. She is quite knowledgeable, and we regularly receive compliments about her work.

## **6. 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

## **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

#### **D. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT**

#### **E. DETECTIVE DIVISION**

### **VII. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Action: Commissioner Howe 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.

Chief Ferland turned the next portion of the meeting over to Capt. Warchol to give the financial report. Capt. Warchol updated the commission on various accounts.

When he completed his report, Commissioner Golumb asked about gasoline costs. Chief Ferland indicated we are in fact seeing some savings through conservation efforts that we have put into place in the form of more energy efficient vehicles; however these savings are being offset by our officers having to travel literally all over the state to attend arraignments because of cut-backs in hours and closures in New Hampshire's strained court system.

### **VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Chairman Golumb 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 January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting of the police commission be adjourned.

**Seconded by Commissioner Howe.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion at 6:36 p.m.

### **IX. NEXT MEETING: *The Commission's Public Hearing for input on the "FY '13 police budget, Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, Portsmouth City Hall***

**NEXT REGUAR MONTHLY MEETING - *Wednesday, February 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2011, in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers. The public session begins at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.***

*Kathe*

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant  
Reviewed By Commissioner Howe, Clerk of the Commission*

*Gerald W. Howe*