

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE JULY 26th, 2016 MONTHLY POLICE COMMISSION
MEETING

5:30 p.m. Public Session – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers

Brenna Cavanaugh, Chair
Joseph J. Onosko
Joe Plaia

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The July 26th, 2016 monthly police commission meeting was called to order at 4:43 p.m. in Council Chambers. (Archived video of the meeting is available on the city’s website.)

The following people were present: Commissioners Cavanaugh, Onosko, and Plaia, Chief David Mara, Captain of Operations Frank Warchol, Admin. Manager Karen Senecal, Exec. Assistant Kathleen Levesque, members of the public and the press.

The Chair called for a motion to go into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91:A, 3-II (a), “Dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee...”, and (c), “Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely affect the reputation of any person...”

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to enter non-public for the purposes delineated above.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Roll Call Vote: The motion passed as follows:

Commissioner Cavanaugh:	“Aye.”
Commissioner Onosko:	“Aye.”
Commissioner Plaia:	“Aye.”

The public session resumed in council chambers at 5:25 p.m.

- II. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to the minutes of the meeting held on June 28th. There were no amendments to these minutes.

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the minutes of the June 28th meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On Voice Vote: The motion passed to accept the minutes of the June 28th meeting.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A.) **POLICE COMMISSION:**

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

i. Accept the resignation of Detective Scott Study
Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the resignation of Detective Scott Study.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Voice Vote: The motion passed to accept the resignation of Detective Scott Study.

ii. Accept the resignation of Auxiliary Officer Ken Winsor.

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the resignation of Auxiliary Officer Ken Winsor.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Voice Vote: The motion passed to accept the resignation of Aux. Officer Ken Winsor.

iii. Accept the resignation of Officer Andre Wassouf.

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the resignation of Officer Andre Wassouf.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Voice Vote: The motion passed to accept the resignation of Officer Andre Wassouf.

2. **Tentative Working Agreements:** Tentative Working Agreements have been negotiated between the police Commission and the Ranking Officers' Union, and the police commission and the Patrol Officers' Union. The TAs will be forwarded to the city council for their action.

3. **Commissioner Cavanaugh:** One of the same people that contacted the commissioner regarding non-enforcement of the NH Hands-Free Law, reached out to the commissioner again noting that Portsmouth is still just giving out verbal warnings, when there was just an accident in Kittery where a person drove into a house because they were texting. Chief Mara agreed that more summons have to be issued. Additional targeted enforcement has been planned as well. The commissioners voiced their own agreement and concern about this. Chief Mara said we have to do a better job at the police department to get the message down to the rank and file that the grace period is over and violators will be summonsed.
4. **Commissioner Onosko:** The commission had a very productive conference call with the IACP rep. out of Washington, DC, Mr. Kim Kohlhepp. The contract has been approved and is back with the IACP for their signature. The plan is to have two members of the organization visit the department in September and conduct numerous interviews of the public as well as department employees to hear what they want in a police chief. Commissioner Plaia thanked Attorney Sullivan for his input on tweaking the contract. Commissioner Plaia asked that this item be placed on the August meeting agenda to hear from the public.

VI. CHIEF'S REPORT:

1. Grant:

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the \$10,182 allocation to Portsmouth of the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant and forward to the city council for their action.

2. Financial Report

3. Letter of Thanks From Outside the Department

Chief Mara took the opportunity to thank the community for all of their spontaneous and unsolicited outpouring of food, gifts, support, and verbal encouragements shown to

our officers during this nationwide explosion of attacks and hostility against local police officers.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

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

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved the July 26th, 2016 police commission meeting be adjourned.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Voice Vote: The motion passed to adjourn the July 26th, 2016 police commission meeting at 5:44 p.m.

END OF MEETING