

**Rochester Police Commission  
Rochester, NH 03867**

Derek J. Peters, Commissioner  
David R. Stevens, Commissioner  
Lisa M. Stanley, Commissioner

**MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING**

The Rochester Police Commission held their regular monthly meeting at City Hall, Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. Present at this meeting was Comm. Stevens, Comm. Stanley, and Comm. Peters (7:25 P.M.) Chief Toussaint, Dep. Chief Boudreau, Capt. Thomas. Secretary Warburton and invited guests.

Chaplain Cilley was excused.

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

A. Pledge. All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call. The clerk called the roll marking Commissioner's Stevens and Stanley present.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment.

**3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

A. April 3, 2019 regular meeting.

**Comm. Stanley MOVED to accept the minutes of the April 3, 2019, regular meeting. Comm. Stevens SECONDED the motion. The motion to accept the minutes, with corrections PASSED unanimously.**

**4. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No Discussion.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Oaths. Officer Jeremy Riddle and Officer Douglas Crawford took the oath of office administered by Executive Secretary Rebecca Warburton. Their families were on

hand to take part in this achievement. Both are scheduled to attend the next Police Academy.

## B. Monthly Reports

1. Operations. Capt. Thomas noted that four of the six wards met this period. Wards 1 and 4 did not meet. Discussion included speeding traffic, the projected increase in thefts from motor vehicles and daytime burglaries during the summer months, strategies for securing homes, vehicles and other personal property items. We are starting to place the speed trailer into the community to target areas of concern to help direct our resources. There was a discussion on how transient persons affects calls for service. The Crime Analyst reviewed some crime data and discussed the comp stat report from January to present. The K9 Unit had three tracks in town and one drug search out of town.

The Honor Guard has been requested to present the colors for the upcoming CHaD football game, June 29. They will also participate in the annual NH Police Memorial in Concord on May 17 and at the Rochester Memorial Day parade.

Lt. Bossi attended the Rental Property Owner's Association meeting on April 11. He spoke about the most recent commercial and residential burglaries. He also spoke about and provided handouts reference to the right to know information and requests for records. There were questions regarding evictions, and the status of the department staffing.

There was a significant increase in traffic stops from the prior month. There was a noteworthy arrest by an officer where fentanyl was seized following a traffic stop in a known drug area. There was no significant change to property crimes compared to prior months, but the increase in thefts of motor vehicles is high compared to prior years. The category of offense is the same whether an actual theft or a taking without owner consent. We feel some start as theft from motor vehicles, and if they find the keys in the vehicle, they take it. Nearly all of the drug related charges were drugs found on subject's incident to arrest for separate charges. The majority of the drugs found were heroin/fentanyl and methamphetamine.

The investigations bureau had 48 cases sent up from patrol for review or investigation. There are currently 75 cases assigned. There were 29 cases presented to the Grand Jury all with true bills. Compliance checks completed for five sex offenders and two pawnshops. There were four detective call outs (1 untimely and 1 overdose, fireworks fires, and a juvenile injury). There also was two evidence call outs (1 burglary, 1 fireworks fires). There were 331 pieces of evidence logged in, 103 items returned to owners and an additional 135 pieces destroyed.

The Community Engagement Officer continues to do an amazing job. In addition to his regular duties, Officer Danie is planning for the Wings and Wheels event and planning

the women's self-defense course with Officer Turner. He attended a social media workshop for Rochester Main Street, he attended teen night and he attended the Rochester clean-up day. He spent time training new recruits in crime scene and basic latent fingerprint dusting and firearms training. He also worked a couple of patrol shifts, and worked drug take back day. These are just a few of the activities he was involved in this period.

Two of the center staff attended the NHEDA Conference and several attended the banquet where Sgt. Babine was recognized as NH dispatch supervisor of the year. Two members are still in training, but progressing well. All of their evaluations are due this month.

The Juvenile Prosecutor had 44 petitions this period, with an additional 20 plus hearings including reviews, violations, dispositional and competency hearings.

The Explorers had two meetings this period. One of the meetings was a tour of the Coast Guard station. Explorers assisted with drug take back day.

There were 115 youth at Teen night on April 6. Haven was the social service provider this month

In Diversion Nicole taught a LEADS class with SRO Jackson, she taught a criminal justice studies class at Spaulding with Lt. Gould, she presented at the Citizens' Academy, and is now working on National Night Out planning slated for August 6.

There were 35 calls to the various housing complexes. There has been a neighbor dispute at Cold Spring and an issue with drugs. The Housing Officers are working to get those resolved. Evictions are underway where criteria has been met. Officer Blair also worked with the high school students on clean-up of Wyandotte.

Comm. Stanley inquired if the granite shield arrests were all in Rochester. It was reported that they were.

Comm. Stanley noted the final bullet point in the juvenile prosecutor report showed her completing 41 hours of admin work. Does she need an assistant?

Chief Toussaint said could she use one, yes. It is not a high priority and we don't have any plans to ask for an assistant at this point.

Comm. Stanley asked would it never be advantageous.

Not for that position. There could be some overlap for one on the support side and patrol, but we have to prioritize the budget needs vs wants.

B. Administration. Dep. Chief Boudreau said that Coyote Creek in Rochester was awarded the bid for the lighting systems on the hand and long guns, which have been ordered. Once they arrive, there will be a training class. We have held off on our annual firearms training in order to include this into that. We got a better price than we anticipated. We are discussing putting some of those savings toward the outer carriers that we are currently testing.

Chief Toussaint said he's not thrilled with the style of outer carrier that we are currently wear testing. There is another style he'd like to look at. We want to have some different options to show you.

Comm. Peters asked to have them at the next meeting.

Dep. Chief Boudreau said the Department presented our FY20 budget to the Council on April 30. It was a different format, and there were few questions. We have a second presentation on May 14 for our CIP budget. We will be attending all budget meetings to answer questions. There is the potential for adjustments to be made by Council prior to final adoption. The issues and options for the paging module for IMC and for the civilian dispatch supervisor appeared to be well-received. This will allow us to bring the sergeant overseeing dispatch back to supervising police operations.

With two months to go the budget is right on track. We have a large savings in salaries and benefits, which is good and bad. Good because the overtime line is over so we have money to cover it. The O&M lines are right in line at 70% spent.

Training and Hiring, we had three graduate from the Academy on April 26<sup>th</sup>, and after they complete some final in-house training and policy review, they will start field training on May 12. We will send four to the 179<sup>th</sup> Academy on May 6. They will graduate in August.

Sgt. Cost has started another hiring process. May 18<sup>th</sup> will be the physical agility test. If we get any good candidates, we will try to have them all through the process to attend the 180<sup>th</sup> Academy in September.

Training for CPR is underway. We have to recertify every two years to maintain certification, and to administer Narcan. Det. Frechette is teaching the courses.

There has been a concern when we lose officers that the time and training we have invested in them goes with them. We are working to build up our instructor base. Officer Turner attended a weeklong defensive tactics instructor class. Officer Krochmal was recertified as a Taser instructor.

We collected nine boxes of medication at Drug Take Back; we won't know the weights for a couple of weeks.

C. Other.

Comm. Stanley commented that the public hearing for the budget is May 21 so anyone that wishes to support the PD that is the opportunity to do that.

Comm. Peters asked how the radio project is progressing.

Dep. Chief Boudreau said the design is done. It was slated for presentation to the Council in May, but it may be bumped due to budget presentations.

Since we sought and received authorization for the sole source vendor and do not have to go to bid, we will probably start to look at purchasing equipment in November and hopefully will garner some good year-end pricing. The project will then kick off in the Spring.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence for the month included: Det. Rousseau is recognized and nominated for Employee of the Month for covering the evidence locker duties during the absence of the regular technician. Det. Moore is recognized by the County Attorney's office for preparation, demeanor and professionalism as the lead investigator in a recent trial. Off. Benjamin and Off. Costin are thanked by a resident for assisting with a welfare check on a family member. Det. Mundy is nominated for Employee of the month for his years of service as a dependable and committed team player. Sgt. Miehle recommended a book to a presenter at some recent training. The presenter used information in the book to guide and comfort a person in need.\* ACO Paradis is thanked by a resident for assistance in locating their lost dog. Off. Robinson and Off Garstin are thanked by a property owner for assistance regarding a criminal trespass at the property. Spec. Colwell is thanked by an Officer for her patience in helping him learn the requirements for covering a dispatch shift. Off. Brinkman is recognized for work on a burglary case where the suspect was identified and apprehended within 24 hours.

This goes to show the power of experience on the job. Good job to all.

\* [The book is The Gift of Fear – Gavin De Becker]

## **7. INFORMATION:**

A. There was no discussion.

**8. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: (Pursuant to: RSA 91-A:3)**

**Commissioner Peters MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 7:38 P.M. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, paragraph II, section A (personnel) and section E (legal.) The motion was SECONDED by Comm. Stanley. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 - 0 with Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Stanley voting in the affirmative.**

**The non-public session closed at 8:45 P.M. on a MOTION by Comm. Stanley. SECOND by Comm. Stevens. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 - 0 with Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Stanley voting in the affirmative.**

**Comm. Stanley MOVED to seal the minutes indefinitely. SECOND by Comm. Stevens. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 - 0 with Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Stanley voting in the affirmative.**

**9. MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Comm. Stanley MOVED to award merit increases on the respective anniversary dates to Sgt. Michael Miehle (3.6%) and Off. Justin Livingstone (4.15%). SECOND by Comm. Stevens. The motion PASSED unanimously.**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Comm. Stanley MOVED to adjourn. SECOND by Comm. Stevens 8:46 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton  
Secretary