

**Rochester Police Commission
Rochester, NH 03867**

Derek J. Peters, Chairman
Bruce E. Lindsay, Commissioner
Lucien G. Levesque, Commissioner

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING

The Rochester Police Commission held their regular monthly meeting in City Hall Council Chambers on Wednesday, May 3, 2017. Present at this meeting was Comm. Peters, Comm. Lindsay, Comm. Levesque, Chief Toussaint, Dep. Chief Boudreau, Capt. Thomas, Chaplain Edward Cilley, and Secretary Warburton as well as members of the Department, and the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

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

B. Prayer. Chaplain Cilley led the opening prayer.

C. Roll Call. The clerk called the roll marking all Commissioner's present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no comment from the public.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. April 5, 2017 regular meeting.

Comm. Levesque MOVED to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2017, regular meeting as presented. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

4. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Policy Updates: Second Reading for Adoption

(1) Policy 71.1.1: Arrest Procedures, Booking Room.

Chief Toussaint said in the past we had in policy when we brought someone in the cell we would handcuff them to the bench with an eyebolt. We no longer do that in the cell. We do still have overflow benches outside the cell and if we have multiple arrests at once, if the booking cell is unavailable, prisoners will be handcuffed to those benches. This confines movement so they do not have free run of the booking area. This is a minor housekeeping update.

Comm. Levesque MOVED to remove this from the table and to place it into second reading for adoption. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

Comm. Levesque MOVED to adopt Policy 71.1.1: Arrest Procedures, Booking Room as amended. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

(2) Policy 42.1.1.5: Investigations, Sexual Assault and Sex Offender Registrations. Chief Toussaint said is a very minor language change changing the name of SASS where it is listed in the policy to Haven. Haven is the new name of that organization.

Comm. Levesque MOVED to remove this from the table and to place it into second reading for adoption. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

Comm. Levesque MOVED to adopt Policy 42.1.1.5: Investigations, Sexual Assault and Sex Offender Registrations as amended. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Awards & Recognition:

(1) Lifesaving: Officer James Murphy and Sgt. Marc Cilley responded to a non-responsive male and performed CPR and ventilation, assisting even after EMS arrived. The subject was transported and is expected to live.

B. Oath of Office: Marc Cilley to Sergeant: Attorney Andrea Mitrushi administered the oath for promotion to Sergeant for Marc Cilley.

C. Accept Resignation: Sergeant Scott Loignon

Comm. Levesque MOVED to accept the resignation, with regret. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

D. Monthly Reports

1). Operations. All six of the wards met in April. There were general discussions on crime prevention, a review of the comp stat program and Amanda Pinkham attended two of the meetings providing an update on the Recovery center.

The Honor Guard will present at the NH Police Memorial ceremonies on May 19, 2017 in Concord.

The K9 had three drug searches and two tracks. Phlirt was recertified this month. They team also presented at the citizens academies in Rochester and at UNH.

There were four drug related arrests from MV enforcement and we seized and took off the street heroin, suboxone, meth and pills, and cash.

Comm. Peters asked if we get forfeiture funding money back.

We are eligible for about 45%, however, if the value is less than \$100,000 and there is *no conviction*, we cannot seize the money.

Comp Stat showed there was a spike in robberies, and there were several arrests made. These were from the pharmacy and convenience store robberies.

The Recovery Center is up to 92 members and has increased their daily visitors from two to five since opening in October.

There were 31 cases sent up to ISB for review. They have 91 cases open. There were 21 cases presented to the Grand Jury and all returned true bills. We took in 415 pieces of evidence. This was a drug burn month and we were able to incinerate about 150 lbs of drugs from the evidence locker.

The Communications Center is doing well. The new specialists in training are right on track with where they should be. We anticipate a release to solo headset by next month.

Officer Blair has been handing out bike helmets to youth in need from a donation from the Police Benevolent Association.

Officer Miehle participated in earth day. He is preparing for Free Comic Book Day with Main Street, and he organized a car seat technician certification course. We have two certified technicians. There are now eight people in the area that we can partner with to do these inspections, including the Police Department, Frisbie Hospital, Hope on Haven Hill and Head Start.

Diversion Coordinator Nicole Rodler presented with Sgt. Deluca a sexting class.

The LEAD program is getting ready to graduate.

Comm. Peters asked for information about getting accident reports, as there was a recent change and a lot of media coverage.

The Police Department has been issuing reports to insurance companies and persons involved for years. It recently became known that under the Driver Privacy Act that only the DMV is authorized to release that information, due to the reports containing information protected by the Driver Privacy Act. We put our release of these reports on hold.

Police Chiefs across the state have been lobbying for clarification and to amend the law so that police departments can still release this information. We assume it will go back to the way it always was. However, until we hear different we will refer people to the DMV. It is a real inconvenience to our citizens; we hope it will revert to past practice.

2). Administrative. Dep. Chief Boudreau said that our projection shows us to be about \$320,000 to the good in the bottom line, most of the savings coming from salary and benefit lines due to vacancies.

Of the individual lines that we watch closely, the most concerning is vehicle maintenance. We have done a couple of transfers now. We continue to monitor this closely. Sgt. Babine is doing an excellent job.

We presented our budget to the City Council on April 26. We will continue to attend budget hearings moving forward in the event Council has questions.

We are preparing our annual maintenance bids and will put those out soon.

Officer Matt Bailey is progressing well in field training. The new recruits started the Academy on Monday.

Comm. Lindsay asked if Off. Bailey still has to do the full 10-week field training.

He does because he did not have full time certification. Any training they get teaches them how to be an officer and our field training teaches them how to be a Rochester officer.

We interviewed candidates last week and are getting started on the backgrounds. Chief Toussaint said it is important to note the staffing crisis; we are essentially down nine positions. The bright side is there are nine conditional offers and we are working diligently to fill these with the best candidates we can find. I am confident that we have a good group of people that will step in and fill some big shoes.

As we previously reported Bridging the Gaps Coordinator Molly Martuscello has conditionally resigned. Not enough people failed the entrance exam for this current academy, so she is in holding for the August academy. We anticipate her last day being August 11. We will be advertising the position and Molly will assist with finding a replacement. The grant expires in the fall of 2018.

What happens when there is no more grant funding?

At some point, the program has to be picked up. I think it is worthwhile.

Comm. Peters asked the dollar amount.

It would be salary and program costs.

Comm. Peters said we should put something together so we can start actively talking about this.

E. Other.

Comm. Peters, on behalf of the Commission, thanked the men and women of the department, as well as dispatch for the outstanding job they are doing working as shorthanded as we have been. Please keep up the good work. The Commission and staff are working as quickly as we can to fill vacancies.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence for the month included: The Children's Hospital at Dartmouth thanks the Department for support during the CHaD Hockey game. Multiple Officers and Dispatchers are recognized for the teamwork and performance during a spate of robberies occurring in the city. These include: Det. Mangum, Det. Rousseau, Det. Frechette, Det. Flathers, Det. Livingstone, Det. Mundy, Sgt. Emerson, Off. Forrest, Off. James Murphy, Off. Seckendorf, Off. Kimbrough, Off. Porfido, Off. Benjamin, Off. MacKenzie, Off. Lambert, Off. Powers, Sgt. Smith, Capt. Pinkham, Sgt. Babine, Sgt. Balint, Lt. Bossi, Lt. Aucoin, Spec. Neal, Spec. Pumar, Spec. Knox, Spec. Moule, Spec. Bowley and Spec. Devine. Sgt. Emerson was recognized for his leadership role during a series of robberies. Off. Cilley was named City Employee of the Month for assisting a resident experiencing an issue with her furnace. Off. James Murphy, Off. Gagnon, Off. Garstin were all recognized for compassion and professionalism and for connecting a family to resources and support following a death notification. Off. Kimbrough was thanked by the Seacoast Learning Collaborative for his interaction with a student. Off. Lambert was recognized for the ride along experience from a citizen's academy participant. Capt. Thomas is thanked by Great Bay Community College for participating in a diversity panel held annually at the college.

7. INFORMATION:

A. Information Other; enclosed with Agenda. No discussion.

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

Commissioner Levesque MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 7:44 P.M. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, paragraph II, section A (personnel) and section E (legal.) SECOND by Comm. Lindsay. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 - 0 with Comm. Levesque, Comm. Lindsay and Comm. Peters voting in the affirmative. A three-minute recess was called. The non-public session closed at 8:14 P.M. on a MOTION by Comm. Levesque. SECOND by Comm. Lindsay and PASSED unanimously.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

Comm. Lindsay MOVED to award merit increases on the respective anniversary dates to Off. Mangum (4.4%), Off. Livingstone (3.8%) and Off. Lambert (2.75%). Comm. Levesque SECONDED the motion and it PASSED 3-0.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Lindsay MOVED to adjourn. SECOND by Comm. Levesque at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton
Secretary