

**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 the Police Department, 2nd Floor Lecture Hall on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 1:00 P.M. This was the meeting rescheduled from the June 6, 2018 meeting that was canceled. Present at this meeting was Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens, Comm. Stanley, Chief Toussaint, Dep. Chief Boudreau, Capt. Pinkham, Chaplain Cilley and Secretary Warburton.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

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

B. Prayer. Chaplain Cilley led us in prayer.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. May 3, 2018 regular meeting.

Comm. Stanley MOVED to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2018, regular meeting as presented. The motion was SECONDED by Comm. Stevens and PASSED unanimously.

4. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Disorderly Residence Discussion. Chief Toussaint said that we do not have a policy to review yet. We still have some groundwork to do. What seems like should be an easy search is not turning out to be that. We are using the crime analyst to look on a monthly basis for common nuisance residences. While we thought IMC could just pull that data, it cannot. We

are working to create a table in access that will connect to the data on the log. If a situation is resolved as a “gone on arrival”, it will not generate an offense number, so we will need to tweak that.

Comm. Peters asked if the Commission votes on this, how will it affect your job?

Chief Toussaint replied not that much. We can do it with memory, and it lets us get the property owners involved. However, if we are running data and we go to the same residence multiple times, but not the same shift or officers, that information is not always shared. Once the crime analyst runs the access program and the table is pulling data from dispatch we can disseminate this through patrol.

Comm. Stanley asked if the policy said any address with six or more calls.

Chief Toussaint said the threshold could be lower. However, once we get the ability to pull the data, the policy is a no-brainer. We can mirror Franklin and tailor it to Rochester. It will help. Some property owners are aware, and some are not of issues occurring.

Comm. Stevens asked if this was too much. It seems like a lot of work for what does not seem like a problem. Are you doing too much for little result?

Chief Toussaint said once the formula is in place it will not be hard. The question is do we need a policy. I can do this with a directive. I do not think we need a “you shall” policy.

Comm. Peters offered as a property owner, when I go to court, that document is going to be helpful.

Comm. Stanley added this is a tool. This would be useful for a number of things.

Chief Toussaint said I have every intention of continuing with the access program. We are trying to pare down our policies. If you have too many, you cannot manage them.

Comm. Stevens opined that a policy could hurt you in the end if not followed.

Chief Toussaint said this is good information to have, and can be used as part of our problem oriented policy. This will give us a better tool.

Comm. Peters said, if you do not feel we need a policy, come back to us.

Chief Toussaint said I do not know what the scope of the problem is right now. When we pull it, if its only three houses per month, does it need a policy. Or, maybe it is bigger than we know.

Comm. Stevens said the people know which houses on which streets are problems.

Chief Toussaint said what could be discovered is early intervention. That is huge. We have had issues rise up again on Lafayette Street and people are approaching me at meetings. We will be focusing heavy on Lafayette Street with a zero tolerance for quality of life issues.

Comm. Stevens commented that back in the day, Lafayette Street was also a two-man call.

Chief Toussaint said it has not been that for a while. But it ebbs and flows. Right now, it is high. Unchecked it breeds and increases. It is on our radar now and perhaps with the data in advance it might not have risen to this point.

Comm. Peters recommended tabling this for one month.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Accept Resignations.

Comm. Stanley MOVED to accept the resignations of Officer Gagnon, Officer Pendlebury and Officer Brooks, with regret. The motion was SECONDED by Comm. Stevens and PASSED unanimously.

B. Monthly Reports

1. Operations. Captain Pinkham noted four of the six wards held meetings this period. Matters discussed included road construction projects, the comp stat report, police statistics for individual wards as well as overdoses, and drug information in general. Call volume and how calls are triaged by priority 1, 2 or 3, the fair, the new ordinance on camping on city property, the new DPW facility and the city budget also was discussed.

The investigations bureau had 40 cases sent up from patrol for review or investigation. There are currently 70 cases assigned. There were 22 cases presented to the Grand Jury all with true bills. There were five phones analyzed with the Cellebrite machine. Compliance checks completed at eight pawnshops and for three sex offenders. Three detective call outs for suicide and robbery follow up.

Officer Danie attended the Explorer challenge weekend and helped at Drug Take Back Day. He gave a presentation about crime scene processing to the East Rochester after-school program. He taught a shortened version of active shooter to the students at SHS. He also

helped patrol with several emergency calls for service, filling overtime shifts. He is working on a women's self-defense class.

Officer Danie also completed eleven car seat installs. These take about an hour each to do. Not only is the proper way to put the seat in the car reviewed with the parent, but also each seat is inspected for expiration dates and ensuring it is not on any recall list.

Comm. Stanley commented that she did not know the MV officer installed car seats. She thought that was a Fire duty.

Capt. Pinkham replied you have to be certified in this. We have hosted classes here a couple of times. It is a great service to the community. They not only run the serial numbers to make sure there are no defects or recalls, but they also review all the features of a seat, while checking warranty and expiration dates as well.

In Compstat, there was a decrease in traffic stops. The MV Officer was assigned to field training duties and was away at training during this period. Accidents are still occurring in the main corridors of town. There were three robberies investigated. One arrest was made for two of those events. Officers were unable to prove a robbery had occurred for the third report. There were two overdose deaths this period.

The final Teen night of the year was held. Officers ran an obstacle course, which was a huge success. Planning is under way for the annual National Night Out, August 7. Nicole attended a vaping summit and the Strafford County addiction summit, as well as a training with the Attorney General's office on the marijuana decriminalization bill and its effect on juvenile law. Nicole accepted another 2-year term as Chair of the NH Juvenile Court Diversion Network.

The Honor Guard participated in the NH Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony in Concord on May 18, the opening of Buddy Ball at Roger Allen Park, and the Memorial Day parade.

Lt. Bossi attended the May meeting, of the rental property owners association. He answered questions about individuals trespassing in common areas around properties and provided some tips to safeguard against trespassers.

2. Administrative. Dep. Chief Boudreau said that with one month left in the fiscal year, we are 79% spent in O&M lines. We are projecting returning roughly \$250,000.00 to the general fund. Most of those savings are coming from salary lines.

On June 7, bids for the new backline vehicle were opened. The bid is awarded to low bidder Auto Fair Ford for a 2018 Ford Fusion. They allowed for a \$2,000. trade on the 2007 car. We will be picking up the car on June 20, and it will then go to 2-Way for radio and other emergency equipment installation.

Comm. Peters asked how the Ford Interceptors were holding up.

Chief Toussaint said there is no comparison between them and the Dodge Chargers. We typically have to transfer money into the cruiser maintenance line, and as of now, we are \$7,000.00 to the good in that line. Since we have been rotating the tires we are getting about 30,000 miles on the tires and just ordered another 25 to replenish stock.

Dep. Chief Boudreau stated that he and Chief Toussaint have been attending all of the budget workshops. At the meeting last week they voted to add two police officers to our budget, initially doing one for the full year and the other for ½ the year. Chief Toussaint advised that based on academy schedules, we could not get a new person through the process in time for the next academy, and realistically would have to wait until the January academy. The motion was made to add 2 officers beginning in January. The budget is still not final.

We have been completing all the annual handgun qualifications this period. Other training attended included police photography, forensic evidence from fatal crashes, law enforcement interview techniques, field sobriety, latent fingerprint processing, SWAT II, and police rifle and shotgun instructor training. Patrol and supervisors also attended a domestic violence refresher course taught by Det. Frechette and the County Attorney.

Sgt. Cost will proctor the Great Bay College Police exam at the beginning of June. He will have information packets to hand out to potential recruits.

Julie Perron of Bridging the Gaps attended a train the trainer course on youth mental health first aid, which will permit her to train others with youth in mental health crisis. National prevention week was May 13-19 and the coalition collaborated with the school department on several activities. Julie gave a presentation to Rotary on bridging the gaps and prevention. Julie also gave a presentation to the community development committee about the state of prevention as well.

The Middle School Youth to Youth finished their video “Control, Alt or Delete” warning their peers about the dangers of sexting and cyberbullying. The film will be presented at the Granite Youth Alliance Film Festival. The students also plan to show the video to parents of incoming 6th grade students.

The Explorers took part in the NH Weekend challenge, at statewide event. Our post placed 3rd overall in MV stops competition.

WMUR interviewed SRO Jackson for a segment on a day in the life of an SRO. LEAD classes at the Middle and Elementary schools are wrapping up and the high school is complete for this year.

Dep. Chief Boudreau said the backgrounds for the candidates are substantially complete. They are scheduled for medical testing next week.

C. Other.

1. Ward meetings. Comm. Stevens asked if the Commission should go to all of them, some of them or none of them.

Chief Toussaint said the vision for the RUN program was a grassroots, resident organized program. The residents would set the agenda and set meeting dates and the police department would be available as a resource. Any elected officials or departments are resources and depending on the agenda, that is who is invited. That is the ideal situation. I would not say you need to go to all of them, you are elected and a resource for the community. However, we have not gotten to that point. The Council members are at some meetings, but we are still the driving force.

Comm. Stevens said he is not convinced that meeting every month is effective.

Chief Toussaint said he would like to say we are going to meet at least quarterly and the police resources will be there. If there is a concern on a particular street everyone shows up for two or three meetings, and then it drops off.

2. Save the Date - National Thank a Police Officer Day. Comm. Stanley noted there is a committee in town that is organizing this event, which is the third Saturday in September. Every officer and his or her families are invited. The plan is to close off Hanson Street and “paint the block blue.” There will be formal invitations forthcoming. Details are being finalized. The community thus far has been enthusiastic.

The Rotary Charities is the fiduciary for this event, but they do not want to hold excess funds and will be looking to donate to a charity chosen by the Police staff.

Comm. Peters added there are plans for gift bags to be distributed to the officers and we have to review our gifts and gratuities policies regarding that.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence for the month included: The field training officers (Off. Brinkman, Off. Murphy, Off. Turner, Off. Porfido, Off. Powers, Off. Forrest, Off. Worthley Off. Pendlebury and Det. Moore) were recognized for efforts and commitments to training new officers during a severe staffing shortage from 2017-2018. A resident praises Sgt. Jamey Balint for the way he investigated a stalking case. A Citizens' Academy attendee recognizes Off. Turner for her patience, empathy, common sense and skills and she was noted to be a credit to the Rochester Police Department. Off. Kimbrough was recognized by Off. Danie for a recent training and explanation used by the Tactical Team, which was beneficial directly after during a barricaded subject call.

7. INFORMATION:

- A. There was no discussion.

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

Commissioner Stanley MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 1:32 P.M. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, paragraph II, section A (personnel) and section E (legal.) SECOND by Comm. Stevens. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 – 0 with Comm. Stanley, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Peters voting in the affirmative.

The non-public session closed at 2:00 P.M. on a MOTION by Comm. Stanley. SECOND by Comm. Stevens. The motion PASSED by roll call vote 3 – 0 with Comm. Stanley, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Peters 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. Stanley, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Peters voting in the affirmative.

9. MISCELLANEOUS:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to award merit increases on the respective anniversary dates to Off. Jeffrey Gagnon (2.25%), Sgt. Michael Miehle (2.75%), Off. Joseph Oswalt (2.9%), Off. Alex Turgeon (2.95%) Off. Ian Watt (3.1%), Det. Michael Mundy 4% and Det. Steven Bourque (4.3%). Comm. Stanley SECONDED the motion and it PASSED unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to adjourn. SECOND by Comm. Stanley 2:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton
Secretary