

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 12th, 2016 MONTHLY POLICE COMMISSION
MEETING

4:00 p.m. Public Session – Wm. Mortimer Conference Room, Police Dept. & School Board
Conference Room, Seybolt Building

Brenna Cavanaugh, Chair
Joseph J. Onosko
Joe Plaia

UNAPPROVED

I. CALL TO ORDER: The April 12th, 2016 monthly police commission meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. in the Wm. Mortimer Conference Room in the Portsmouth Police Department. (A video archive of the meeting can be viewed online by going to the city's website and clicking "Channel 22", and then clicking on "Archived 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 meetings.")

ACTION: Commissioner Onosko moved to go into non-public session as provided for by RSA 91-A:3, II(e), "Discussion of pending or threatened (in writing) litigation against the town or town officials, board members or employees."

Seconded by Commissioner Plaia.

On a Roll Call Vote: The motion passed unanimously to go into non-public session as provided for by RSA 91-A:3, II(e) as follows:

Commissioner Cavanaugh: "Aye".

Commissioner Onosko: "Aye"

Commissioner Plaia: "Aye"

The commission entered non-public session at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair called the public session back to order at 5:37 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers with the following people present: Commissioners Cavanaugh, Onosko, and Plaia, and members of the public and the press.

II. Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Onosko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Cavanaugh advised the attendees of a demand letter alleging prior abuse of police power and corruption.

Commissioner Onosko revealed a proposal received from the IACP, which is the firm the commission voted to retain to conduct a nationwide search for a permanent chief of police. The proposal gives a four- to six-month timeline to complete the search process. Commissioner Cavanaugh said the commission wants citizens to be on the selection committee.

III. Public Comment: (The following is a brief summary of each person's comments and represents the speaker's personal opinion. The meeting can be viewed online by going to the city's website and clicking "Channel 22", and then clicking on "Archived 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 meetings.")

Mr. Bill Downey – Mr. Downey would like to see more emphasis on citizens' input and involvement in the search.

Ms. Bess Mosley – Ms. Mosley feels there is no sense of urgency in conducting this search. She feels Chief Mara is doing a great job and the commission should keep him until a new chief is found, whether it is 4, 6, or 8 months; it doesn't matter.

IV. Commission Items:

1. Police Commission Rules – This item is being moved to the next work session. The Chair will talk to other municipalities about compensation. Commissioner Onosko said the Chair will funnel edits to this document through Commissioner Plaia, and he will come back with a new draft.

V. Motion to Adjourn

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

Action: Commissioner Plaia moved to adjourn the April 12th, 2016 police commission work session.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Voice Vote: The motion passed to adjourn the April 12th, 2016 police commission work session at 6:29 p.m.

Kathe

Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant

Reviewed By Commissioner Plaia, Clerk of the Commission

Joe Plaia