

## PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION

### MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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 April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 monthly Police Commission meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. in the Wm. Mortimer Room of the police department for the purpose of going into non-public session.

The Chair called for a motion to go into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91:A, 3-II (c) “Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board...”. The Commission entered non-public session at 4:32 p.m.

The public session was called back to order at 5:35 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers in City Hall.

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
Commissioner Plaia led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**  
**Action:** Commissioner Plaia moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting.  
**Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.**  
**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting.
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** (The following is a brief summary of each person’s comments and represents the speaker’s personal opinion. The entire 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.”)

**Mark Brighton, 285 Union Street:** Mr. Brighton said he again wished to address drinking in Prescott Park. In particular, he spoke about three instances that occurred last month in different parts of the city; specifically, in the park on Islington Street, and in Market Square. He repeated that people in Prescott Park do not get arrested. As he did last month, Mr. Brighton voiced his concerns about someone leaving Prescott Park inebriated and getting into an accident, and that person's lawyer then suing the city because there are no citations on record. He closed by requesting the Commission do something.

There being no other persons who wished to make public comments, the Chair closed the public comment session.

The Chair noted an item under 'Unfinished Business': She requested the Commission revisit acceptance of the minutes to accept the minutes of the March 28<sup>th</sup> & April 12<sup>th</sup> minutes, which were not covered in the earlier motion to accept the minutes.

**Action: Commissioner Plaia moved** to accept the minutes of the March 28<sup>th</sup>, and April 12<sup>th</sup> Police Commission meetings.

**Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to accept the minutes of the March 28<sup>th</sup>, and April 12<sup>th</sup> Police Commission meetings.

## V. NEW BUSINESS:

### A. POLICE COMMISSION:

#### 1. Commissioner Onosko:

- a. Update on IACP Executive Search – The six candidates on the short list will be coming in this Friday for a day-long round of interviews with four different stakeholder panels in addition to the Police Commission. The six candidates are:

Michael Begonis, COP Wilmington, MA  
Scott Carline, COP, Mashpee, MA  
Joseph Costa, COP, DeSoto, TX  
David Goodman, Captain, Tampa FL  
Robert Merner, Deputy COP, Seattle, WA  
Dermot Quinn, Lt. Col. Mass. State Police

Commissioner Onosko gave the names of the stakeholder panels and their general make-up, and described how the day will go. He said the Commission will then narrow the list to two candidates and conduct further vetting. He thanked Karen Senecal and Kathe Levesque for their work on the complicated logistics of putting the process together.

The Chair asked Commissioner Onosko to clarify if selection of the final two candidates would happen on Friday. Commissioner Onosko said it could be quite clear by the end of Friday who the top two candidates are after everyone's input, but the Commission doesn't need to make the decision then. He felt the Commission should have a decision by next Tuesday, or Wednesday the latest.

Commissioner Cavanaugh explained to the public the reason there are no women in the candidate pool is because no women submitted resumes to the IACP for the position. She said the IACP made it a point to advertise in outlets that specialize in reaching potential candidates who are women and candidates from minority populations.

The Chair also disclosed that one of the top six candidates is known to her personally. She said when she received the resumes, she immediately disclosed that information to the IACP reps and all the stakeholder groups, and would recuse herself if that person ends up being selected as one of the final two candidates.

**B. CHIEF OF POLICE:**

1. Accreditation Update
2. Monthly Traffic Data
3. Donations:

**Action: Commissioner Onosko moved** to accept the donations of \$400 and \$200 respectively from Mr. & Mrs. Brown and Mr. Jason Page, in support of scholarships for cadets to attend the Explorer Cadet Academy.

**Seconded by Commissioner Plaia.**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to accept the donations of \$400 and \$200 respectively from Mr. & Mrs. Brown and

Mr. Jason Page, in support of scholarships for cadets to attend the Explorer Cadet Academy and forward to the City Council for their action.

4. Financial Report & Facility Update – Karen Senecal

Chief Mara told the commission we had two officers graduate the full-time police academy last week: Officer Joe Melanson, and Officer Jack Maloney. Officer Melanson was the recipient of the Jeremy Sharon award from the academy. The Jeremy Sharon Award is given to the graduating officer who demonstrates skills and leadership traits gained through military service, who uses those strengths to mentor and encourage his or her fellow officers.

The Chief also informed the Commission that we are ready to release our first ever PPD Annual Report, which will cover 2016. It will be up on the website after Commission review.

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

- 1.) Commissioner Onosko: The Commissioner reminded the public that all three Commissioners will be on the 5-0 Edge radio show tomorrow, Wednesday, at 8:30 a.m. to talk about the Police Commission.

**VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

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

**Action: Commissioner Plaia moved** the April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Police Commission meeting be adjourned.

**Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to adjourn the April 25<sup>th</sup> Police Commission meeting at 5:55 p.m.

**VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

This Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> will be the next time the Commission meets, but the next regular monthly Police Commission business meeting will be May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, with the regular 4:30/5:30 p.m. start time.

END OF MEETING

**MONTHLY POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION**

DATE OF MEETING: 4-25-17

Name & Address: Mark Brighton  
285 Union St  
Topic: drinking

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Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

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