

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 23rd, 2019 POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
10:00 a.m. Public Session – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers
Joseph J. Onosko, Chair
Jim Splaine
Stefany Shaheen

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The April 23rd, 2019 monthly Police Commission meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.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 (a), “Dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee...”.

Action: Commissioner Shaheen moved to enter non-public session for the purposes delineated above.

Seconded by Commissioner Onosko.

On a Roll Call Vote: The motion passed as follows:

Commissioner Onosko:	“Aye.”
Commissioner Splaine:	“Aye.”
Commissioner Shaheen:	“Aye.”

The motion passed to go into non-public session at 9:10 a.m.

The public session was called back to order at 10:13 a.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers. (An archived video of the meeting is available on the city’s website.)

The following people were present: Commissioners Onosko and Splaine; Commissioner Shaheen was present via telephone. Also present were Chief Robert Merner, Admin. Manager Karen Senecal, Exec. Assistant Kathleen Levesque, Lt. Cummings, Det. Widerstrom, Officer Noury, Portsmouth Herald reporter Beth Dinan.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Splaine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**
Commission Shaheen indicated she had not had the opportunity to review the minutes of the March 26th meeting. Approval of the March minutes was tabled until the May 28th Commission 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 scrolling down the home page of the City's website to "Recent Meeting Broadcast", or "City YouTube Channel..." which is in the blue box just below it.)

There being no one wishing to speak, the Chair closed the public comment section.

V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. POLICE COMMISSION:

1. Commissioner Onosko:

a.) Update on the Police Department's drone acquisition, policies and procedures.

a. Lt. Cummings gave the Commission an overview of the program. The program has been funded by a roughly \$70,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security. Lt. Cummings introduced Officer Noury, who is already a licensed drone pilot; the Lieutenant said he and Detective Widerstrom will be licensed shortly as well, after completing a rigorous and comprehensive testing procedure.

b. Lt. Cumming's presentation went into detail answering the questions, "Why are drones a good idea?", "What are the capabilities of a drone?", and, "What administrative actions are required?" The full presentation is available on the City's YouTube channel, which can be accessed through the city webpage. The Commission also reviewed the two Standard Operating Procedure documents that govern the Department's

use of sUAS which include our transparency steps and the collection and use of information.

- c. Lt. Cummings said all the hardware, software, and training are covered by the Homeland Security Grant. He said the team will have to train throughout the year to maintain readiness.

The phone connection with Commissioner Shaheen was then lost. All remaining business before the Commission was tabled until the May 28th, 2019 meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. by the Chair, after announcing May 28th, 2019 as the date of the next scheduled Police Commission Meeting.

B. PATROL DIVISION:

- a. This report was included in the 4-23-19 commission meeting packet.

VII. COURT OFFICE REPORT:

- a. This confidential report was included in the 4-23-19 commission meeting packet.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

IX. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28th, 2019, with the public session beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers.

END OF MEETING

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Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant

Reviewed By Commissioner Splaine, Clerk of the Commission

Jim Splaine