

**PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 POLICE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING**

**5:30 p.m. Public Session – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers**

**Joseph J. Onosko, Chair**  
**Stefany Shaheen, Commissioner**  
**Thomas Hart, Commissioner**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 monthly Police Commission meeting was called to order at 4:00 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 (a), “Dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee...”

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

**Seconded by Commissioner .**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to go into non-public session at 4:00 p.m.

**The public session was called back to order at 5:34 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers.**

**The following people were present:** Commissioners Onosko, Shaheen, and Hart, Chief Robert Merner, Admin. Manager Karen Senecal, Exec. Assistant Kathleen Levesque, members of the Department and the public.

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

- III. **MOTION TO SUSPEND THE AGENDA:**  
The Chair asked for a motion to suspend the agenda and move to the first item under the Chief’s Report.

**Action: Commissioner moved** to suspend the agenda and move to the first item under the Chief's Report.

**Seconded by Commissioner .**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to suspend the agenda and move to the first item under the Chief's Report.

**IV. A. CHIEF OF POLICE**

1. Chief Merner swore in three new full-time officers: Officer Kristen Cournoyer, Officer Mark Dente, and Officer Tim Conroy, and two new Auxiliary Officers: Officer Sean Kennedy, and Officer Dave Martinelli

**V. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

The Chair asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the following meetings, as written: September 3<sup>rd</sup>, September 24<sup>th</sup> September 30<sup>th</sup>, and October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Action: Commissioner Splaine moved** to accept the minutes of the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, September 24<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>; and October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meetings as written.

**Seconded by Commissioner Shaheen.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The motion passed to accept the above captioned meeting minutes as written. The vote was as follows:

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

**VI. 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.

VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

IX. **A. POLICE COMMISSION:**

1. Accept the Resignation of Jim Splaine.
2. Election of Commission Chair and Clerk for 2020 – in accordance with City Charter Amendment ‘E’:

**“The Police Commission shall, beginning January 1992, convene meeting annually in the month of January for organizational purposes. The Commission shall choose one of its members to serve as Chairperson. The Commission shall choose one of its members to serve as Clerk.”** (NOTE: As a result of the 2019 City Council Election, there were only two Police Commissioners, so no Police Commission Meeting was held in January of 2020.)

3. Selection of Ethics Committee Member – in accordance with City Ordinance Chapter 1, Article VIII, Section 1.804:

**“Board of Ethics”, the Police Commission will, by the casting of lots, designate a Commissioner to serve on the City’s Board of Ethics, should the board be convened. Said Commissioner will hold the designation for the 2020 calendar year.**

**B. CHIEF OF POLICE, cont’d:**

2. Grants & Donations:  
Donations:
  - a.) A donation of \$1,000 from Mr. Gormley and Ms. Iguchi in support of the Portsmouth Police Department. (Anticipated Action: A motion will be made to accept the donation of \$1,000 and forward to the City Council for their action.)
  - b.) A donation in the amount of \$20 from Ms. Marchi in support of the Portsmouth Police Explorers Post. (Anticipated Action: A motion will be made to accept the donation of \$20 and forward to the City Council for their action.)
3. Letters of Appreciation from Outside the Department
4. Accreditation Update
5. Monthly Traffic Stats
6. Financial Report – Karen Senecal

- a. Strategic Plan
- b. Grant Applications Update
- c. Facilities Report

**X. PATROL DIVISION:**

- a. This report was included in the 2-25-20 commission meeting packet.

**XI. COURT OFFICE REPORT:**

- a. This confidential report was included in the 2-25-20 commission meeting packet.

**XII. MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

**XIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

The next commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 with the public session beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers.

**XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

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

**Action: Commissioner     moved** the February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Police Commission Meeting be adjourned.

**Seconded by Commissioner     .**

**On a Voice Vote:** The motion passed to adjourn the February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Monthly Police Commission Meeting at   p.m.

END OF MEETING

*Kathe*

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant  
Reviewed By Commissioner Harte, Clerk of the Commission  
Tom Hart*