

**PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2004 MEETING**

Noon (Non-Public) 1:00 PM (Public)  
Portsmouth Police Department - Wm. D. Mortimer Conference Room

John D. Kelley, Chairman  
William F. Devine  
Gerald W. Howe

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Chairman called the December 21<sup>st</sup> monthly Police Commission Meeting to order at 1:05 PM. (*One cassette tape documenting this meeting is on file for reference*).

**Present during public session:** Commissioners Kelley, Devine, and Howe, Chief Michael Magnant, Deputy Chief Young, Councilor Harold Whitehouse, Foster's Democrat reporter Doug Guarino, Portsmouth Herald reporter Nancy Cicco, Budget Coordinator Karen Senecal, Executive Assistant Kathe Hoyt

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Deputy Chief Dave Young led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

**Action: Commissioner Howe moved** the Board accept the minutes of the meeting held on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

**Seconded by Commissioner Devine.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board unanimously voted in favor of the motion to accept the minutes and place them on file.

- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. POLICE COMMISSION:**

**Action: Commissioner Howe moved** the Commission appoint Officer David Keaveny and Youth Advocate Linda Demo to permanent status.

**Seconded by Commissioner Devine.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board voted unanimously to appoint Officer David Keaveny and Youth Advocate Linda Demo to permanent status.

**Action: Commissioner Howe moved** the Commission accept the contract for services between The Pease Development Authority and the Portsmouth Police Department as presented.

**Seconded by Commissioner Devine.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board voted unanimously to accept the contract for services between The Pease Development Authority and the Portsmouth Police Department.

## **B. CHIEF'S REPORT:**

### **1. Financial Report**

- a. Budget Coordinator Karen Senecal reviewed the status of the budget. Expenditures are actually under the norm. Commissioner Howe noted that the SERT budget was up 100%. Chief Magnant explained that Chief Russ set up certain accounts in keeping with the organizational changes he brought about, but we were never able to fully fund the accounts in any subsequent budget year. This continues to be the case for OT-ED and SERT, thus, they appear to be over-budget.
- b. At this time Chairman Kelley noted that another area of service that impacts our budget is our requirement to provide supplemental security to the secret service when statesmen and dignitaries visit this area. The Portsmouth Police Department bears the full cost of providing officers as requested. In the past we have been told to invoice the appropriate federal agency, but the invoices have always remained unpaid. This can be a significant cost in an election year and can require us to use overtime dollars to provide both the additional security and insure regular coverage. Commissioner Kelley asked if there was a way to report on this so the commission could be kept informed.

### **2. Grants and Donations**

- a. The Portsmouth Police Honor Guard received a donation of \$600.00 from St. Andrews Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons.  
**Action: Commissioner Howe made a motion** to accept the donation and forward it to the City Council.  
**Seconded by Commissioner Devine.**  
**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board voted unanimously to accept the Honor Guard donation and forward it to the City Council for action.

### **3. Division and Team Reports**

- a. Information Systems
- b. Accident Investigation Team
- c. Records Division Report

**Action: Commissioner Howe made a motion** to accept the Division and Team reports as presented and place them on file.

**Seconded by Commissioner Devine.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board voted unanimously to accept the Division and Team reports and place them on file.

**4. Letters of Thanks and Appreciation from Outside the Department**

- a. A thank you letter was received from Portsmouth resident Mr. Alanson Sturgis complimenting Crossing Guard Janet Vinceguerra for the clear, safe and professional execution of her job helping school children safely cross the busy South Street and Summit Avenue corner.
- b. A thank you letter from Mr. George Robinson, Executive Director of the Portsmouth Housing Authority, for the Department's prompt attention and assistance regarding issues at one of the housing locations that has a sizeable elderly population.
- c. A thank you letter was received from Ms. Maya Glos, Social Studies Chair, for the educational opportunity provided students who attended the November regular monthly Police Commission meeting that was held at Portsmouth high school.
- d. A thank you letter was received from Ms. Joan Connors and Ms. Tara Schoff for Officer Darrin Sargent's handling of two criminal complaints in which they were victims.

**C. PATROL SERVICES BUREAU:**

**1. Log Activity Reports**

There was a brief discussion regarding seized goods and monies.

**2. Communications Center Report**

The Deputy noted that we are still one dispatcher short.

**3. FTO Report**

**4. Auxiliary Monthly Activity Report**

**5. Special Events in the City**

**6. Officers Out Sick or Injured – We have one officer out on FMLA.**

**C. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT**

**E. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES**

## **VI. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Kelley asked Chief Magnant if the Department had heard from Representative Blanchard regarding any progress on our quest to clarify the language of the RSA governing noisy vehicles, and to add “teeth” to the law on motorcycle noise. The Chief explained that we are seeking to close the loophole. District courts have historically held the posture that since there is a specific motorcycle law, police departments cannot use the motor vehicle law on noise to address the problem of loud motorcycles. Representative Blanchard is working with us and has initiated the process.

Chairman Kelley then asked about the K-9 search in the high school. The Chief responded that with the exception of a lady from Hampton who read about the search and voiced a negative opinion, it went very well and the overall response from Portsmouth parents and teachers was good. The search was accomplished with minimal impact on the school day and the students. It was an effective proactive use of the available resources.

## **VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

There being no further business before this Commission,

**Commissioner Devine moved** the December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting be adjourned.

**Seconded by Commissioner Howe.**

**On a Roll Call Vote:** The Board unanimously voted in favor of the motion at 1:37 P.M.

## **VIII. NEXT MEETING: *Scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005***

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Hoyt, Administrative Aide*

*Reviewed By Commissioner Gerald Howe, Clerk*