

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 19TH MEETING

6:00 PM (Non-Public) – Wm. Mortimer Conference Room, PPD
7:00 PM (Public) – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, City Hall

Gerald W. Howe, Chairman
John C. Russo
John F. Golumb

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The chairman called the August 19th, 2009 monthly police commission public session to order at 6:58 PM.
- Present during the public session:** Commissioners Howe, Russo, and Golumb, Chief David Ferland, Deputy Chief Stephen DuBois, Executive Assistant Kathleen Levesque, Sgt. Russ Russo and family
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Deputy Chief Stephen DuBois led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:**
July 15th, 2009.
Action: Commissioner Russo moved to accept the minutes and place them on file.
Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.
On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted to accept the minutes of the July 15th, 2009 meeting and place them on file.
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
- A. POLICE COMMISSION:**
1. **Personnel Items that require action:**
Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept the resignation of BIS Assistant Holly Fish with regret.
Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Holly Fish. Chairman Howe thanked Holly for her seven years of dedicated work in the Bureau of Investigative Services.

B. CHIEF OF POLICE

- 1. Recognition of the officers who were responsible for the successful apprehension of burglary suspects involved with a break-in at the Kwik Stop Market on July 23rd, 2009. Chief Ferland gave a synopsis of the incident and the work of the officers, all of whom are on the midnight shift and were not able to attend the commission meeting.**
- 2. Recognition of Sgt. Russell Russo for his pre-coordination planning and management of the presidential visit on August 11th, 2009. Chief Ferland said that more than 200 officers were involved in the elaborate planning for this presidential visit.**
- 3. Recognition of Sgt. Kim Sirr for her management of National Night Out 2009. Because of budget cuts, the police department could no longer fund their portion of NNO participation. However, since the department is committed to community policing, Sgt. Sirr was tasked with providing as much police participation as possible without incurring overtime. Chief Ferland said that 17 neighborhoods participated in this year's National Night Out and that we were able to be a part of every neighborhood celebration to some degree. Sgt. Sirr succeeded in providing this without incurring a cent of overtime. She also accomplished the work, meetings and planning while working the midnight shift.**

4. Grants & Donations –

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$6,000 from the NH Highway Safety Agency for the Portsmouth SMART Radar Trailer traffic safety equipment.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$1,635 also from the NH Highway Safety Agency for the Portsmouth laser Radar speed control program.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept a grant in the amount of \$215,000 from the Office of Justice Programs. This grant is a 12-month extension of our existing internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the grant and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commission Golumb moved to accept donations in support of the summer PAL Basketball Program as follows:

1. \$100 from Portsmouth Detective Rochelle Junes.
2. \$10 from Ms. D. Bushe

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donations as listed and forward to the city council for their action.

Chairman Howe reminded the attendees that the last three games of the PAL season were taking place tonight, tomorrow night and Friday night, and encouraged everyone to attend and support the kids.

5. Bureau of Administrative Services Report
 - a. Financial Reports, by line item
 - b. Overtime Report
 - c. Attendance Report
 - d. Personnel and Training Report
 - e. Information Systems Report
 - f. Records Division Report
 - g. Fleet Report
 - h. Communications Center Report

Chief Ferland announced that the city's annual report had been released and told the public how to access the report on the city's website. He also took a moment to speak to the commissioners about the volume and nature of e-mails received following the tumultuous presidential visit. Chief Ferland indicated that they were overwhelmingly complimentary regarding the professionalism and performance of Portsmouth's police officers.

6. Letters of Thanks and Appreciation from outside the department:
 - a. Letters of Thanks from Mr. Dean Peterson to Sergeant Sargent and the police K-9 team of Kotsonis/Titan for his experiences of doing a ride-along

with the K-9 team. Mr. Peterson was the high bidder at the New Hampshire Public Television auction fundraiser to win a ride-along with the K-9 team.

b. Letter of Thanks from Kittery Police Chief Ed Strong, for the help of Portsmouth K-9 Team Kotsonis/Titan at a sponsored Public Safety Day in the town of Kittery.

Chief Ferland asked Deputy DuBois to tell the commission about K-9 Titan's recent certification as a patrol dog.

C. PATROL SERVICES BUREAU:

1. Offense Report
2. Program/Self-Initiated Activity/Directed Patrol Report
3. Animal Control Report
4. Special Teams/Programs report
 - a. K-9 Program
 - b. Seacoast Emergency Response Team
 - c. Accident Investigation Team
 - d. Field Training Program
 - e. Auxiliary Unit
 - f. Community Relations
5. Personnel Out Sick or Injured – One officer out injured
6. Update on Special Events

D. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT

The Chief reported that we now have two full-time prosecutors, and half of the costs for one of the prosecutors are grant-funded.

E. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Chief Ferland went into some detail on a few cases and spoke about the nature of case investigation in terms of the detective's time as well as the timeline of the case itself.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS:

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept the division and team reports and place them on file.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the division and team reports and place them on file.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the commission, the Chairman announced the date for the next commission meeting, and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved the August 19th, 2009 meeting be adjourned.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion at 7:24 PM.

IX. NEXT MEETING: - September 16th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, Portsmouth City Hall.

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant
Reviewed By Commissioner Russo, Clerk*