

PORTSMOUTH POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15th, 2011 MEETING

5:00 p.m. (Non-Public) – Wm. Mortimer Conference Room, Police Dept.
6:00 p.m. (Public) – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, Portsmouth City Hall

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

UNAPPROVED

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The chairman called the June 15th, 2011 monthly police commission public session to order at 5:00 p.m.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to go into non-public session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues as per RSA 91-A:3, II.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to go into non-public session at 5:01 p.m.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved to come out of non-public session.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to come out of non-public session at 5:58 p.m.

Chairman Howe called the public session back to order at 6:02 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers in Portsmouth City Hall.

Present during the public session: Commissioners Howe, Russo, and Golumb, Chief David Ferland, Deputy Chief Stephen DuBois, Captain Frank Warchol;
Absent: Executive Assistant Kathleen Levesque

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chief Ferland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- III. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:**
May 18th, 2011.

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 May 18th, 2011 police commission 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: None.

Commissioner Golumb indicated there were no personnel items that required action, however two donations were pending. The Chair directed Commissioner Golumb to proceed with the acceptance of the donations.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to accept two donations totaling \$75 from Mr. F. Mastan in support of the Police Honor Guard.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept Mr. Mastan's two donations and forward to the city council for their action.

Action: Commissioner Golumb moved to table consideration of a donation of 54 outdated P24 batons by the PD to the Law Enforcement Equipment Program, pending further fact-finding by the training officer.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The Board voted unanimously to table the motion.

Chairman Howe gave the gavel to Commissioner Golumb for an unscheduled item of business.

Action: Chairman Howe moved to accept a donation in the amount of \$320 from Jocelyn Frechette and Gerald Howe to the Portsmouth Police Honor Guard for the purchase of new boots.

Seconded by Commissioner Russo.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously to accept the donation for the purchase of new boots and forward to the city council for their action.

B. CHIEF OF POLICE:

1. Recognition of the Plant Fitness Corporation - Working with Officer Andre Wassouf, the Planet Fitness organization replaced nearly all of our

aged gym equipment last month. We would like to again acknowledge the generosity of Messrs. Marc and Michael Grondahl, Mr. Chris Rondeau, and Mr. Dan Wheelock for making this possible.

2. Recognition of Public Works employees Steve Waitt, Danny Zimmer, Francis Haran, Chris Beliveau, Will White, and Kevin Daley, along with Evidence Technician Jim Gaskell, and Officers Wassouf and Fredrickson, who worked for days dismantling and removing the old equipment and moved and assembled the new equipment. This was heavy labor, and we would not have the well-appointed fitness room we have now without their many hours of work.
3. **Administrative Services Division Report**
 - a. Financial Reports, by line item – Brief discussion on the status of the fleet.
 - b. Overtime Report
 - c. Personnel and Training Report
 - d. Information Systems Report
 - e. Records Division Report
 - f. Fleet Report
 - g. Communications Center Report

At the conclusion of Capt. Warchol's briefing, Chief Ferland asked Deputy DuBois, and Commissioner Golumb as the Chair of the committee, to update the other commissioners regarding the status of the independent organizational study of the police department.

Deputy DuBois said he could speak to a recent conversation with Kym Craven of Public Safety Strategies Group, which is conducting the study. PSSG has prepared an online survey for the general public based on the data and information they have acquired to date. They hope to have the survey out by the end of the month. In the middle of July, PSSG will want to meet with the commission's subcommittee formed to oversee the study. The deputy feels the project is on target to be completed in August.

The deputy then reviewed the following items:

- The upcoming annual Explorer fundraiser baseball game between the Portland Seadogs and the Fisher Cats. Each year the Explorers sell tickets to this June game. The PPD Explorer program receives no funding and is entirely dependent on donations from the community. Chairman Howe took a moment to speak about the importance of the Explorer Post.
- The 2011 Market Square Day event

- A surprise visit from former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The deputy noted that the number of these types of visits is going to steadily increase in the coming months as we enter the 2012 election campaign cycle.
- Chairman Howe added that Mr. Rudy Giuliani was also here. He asked about advance notice and if we needed to provide security. The Chief interjected that for security reasons, he did not wish to get into an operational discussion regarding the subject of security provided to visitors. He did explain the distinctions that are made in providing mutual aid for the president, vice president, or candidates that are in a certain status; he confirmed that in many of the cases we are responsible for providing mutual aid resources to federal agencies such as the Secret Service.
- The Waterfront Festival
- Proms and Graduation
- The Memorial Day Parade
- Special Olympic Torch Run
- The Tall Ships Visit

He added that upcoming events include:

- The Kittery Tall Ships Visit of the Nina and the Pinta reproductions
- Downtown Music Events – these will begin this Saturday. These events require the closure of Pleasant Street.
- Pease Road Race
- Walk-a-Thon coming next Saturday.
- Road Race on July 4th
- St. John's Parade – this will be the 100th Anniversary of this event.

Chief Ferland added that Officer Eric Kinsman and K-9 Titan qualified for the national police dog competition. They participated in a regional competition where they scored enough points to qualify for the national competition.

- Project Safety is going on at the middle school. This is the last preventive program that we have funding for. We used to have many programs going on in each of our schools, but this is the last one we will be able to do.
- Loud Noise and Noise Awareness Program – This was kicked off as a loud motorcycle noise program, but it is actually an all around loud noises awareness program that encompasses Jake braking, loud horns, bar/restaurant-related noises, etc. This program has both education and enforcement components.

Chief Ferland went on to update the commission on the crime front:

- We continue to work on the downtown jewelry burglary.
- We are finishing up with the State Police regarding the fatal accident on Lafayette Road.
- We are pursuing leads regarding the Prescott Park vandalism and thefts.
- We made another seven drug arrests this past week, mostly for drug sales in Portsmouth. Our narcotics division remains very active in pursuing this type of illegal activity.

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

In addition to the following, Chief Ferland added several thank you notes, comments and e-mail received in the past month.

a. Thank you note from Rockingham County Attorney Jim Reams for the professional response of the Portsmouth Police Department in the Cabot Street Robbery. Our quick response made a strong case for the prosecution, and all of the perpetrators have now been sentenced.

C. PATROL SERVICES DIVISION:

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. Field Training Program
 - d. Auxiliary Unit
 - e. Community Relations
5. Personnel Out Sick or Injured

D. CITY PROSECUTOR REPORT

E. DETECTIVE DIVISION

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

Chairman Howe asked if there was any other business before the commission. There being none, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn.

Action: Commissioner Russo moved the June 15th, 2011 meeting of the police commission be adjourned.

Seconded by Commissioner Golumb.

On a Roll Call Vote: The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion at 5:35 p.m.

IX. NEXT MEETING: *Wednesday, July 20th, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers in Portsmouth City Hall.*

Kathe

*Respectfully Submitted By Kathleen Levesque, Executive Assistant
Reviewed By Commissioner Golumb, Clerk of the Commission*

John F. Golumb