



Rochester Police Commission
Rochester, NH 03867

Derek J. Peters, Commissioner
David R. Stevens, Commissioner
David E. Winship, Jr. Commissioner

MINUTES OF THE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING

The Rochester Police Commission held their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in City Hall, Council Chambers. Participants in this meeting: Comm. Peters (by remote), Comm. Stevens, Comm. Winship, Chief Boudreau, Dep. Chief Thomas, Capt. Pinkham, Capt. Swanberry, Chaplain Cilley, Secretary Warburton, and invited guests.

The meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

All participated in the pledge of allegiance.

Chaplain Cilley led all in prayer.

B. Roll Call. The clerk called the roll marking Commissioner Winship, Commissioner Stevens and Commissioner Peters present.

C. Election of Chairman

Comm. Stevens nominated Comm. Peters as Chair for the upcoming term. Second by Comm. Winship.

Nominations ceased and one ballot was cast for Comm. Peters as Chair.

The motion to install Comm. Peters as Chair, PASSED by roll call vote. Comm. Winship-yes, Comm. Stevens-yes, Comm. Peters-yes.

D. Election of Vice Chairman

Comm. Peters nominated Comm. Stevens as Vice-Chair for the upcoming term. Second by Comm. Winship.

Nominations ceased and one ballot was cast for Comm. Stevens as Vice Chair.

The motion to install Comm. Stevens as Vice Chair PASSED by roll call vote. Comm. Winship-yes, Comm. Stevens-yes, Comm. Peters-yes.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. December 1, 2021 regular meeting.

Comm. Peters MOVED to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2021 meeting. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion to accept the minutes as presented PASSED by roll call vote. Comm. Winship-yes, Comm. Stevens-yes, Comm. Peters-yes.

4. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No old or unfinished business.

5. NEW BUSINESS: Chief Boudreau thanked all family and friends to join in the promotional ceremony for four of supervisors at different levels.

A. Oaths of Office for Promotions

1. *Deputy Chief – Jason Thomas.* Chief Boudreau said some might term Jason as Mr. Rochester PD. He is a Spaulding High Graduate. While he was in high school he was part of our Explorer program. He was hired as a dispatcher in 1991, and then hired as a patrol officer in 1998. He was a calming voice on the radio, and as good as he was there, he has been equally as good as a police officer. He's been a field training officer, the training officer, been a use of force instructor and a bike officer. He is the recipient of the Ted Blair Memorial Award. He progressed through the ranks and was promoted to Captain in 2016 and this promotion moves him into the number 2 spot. Jason is one that is looked up to, a friend to all and treats everyone fairly. He is well-respected in the agency.

2. *Captain – Andrew Swanberry.* Chief Boudreau said Andrew has been with the Department since 2006. He holds a degree in English from the UNH, and has just started the Master's program there. He has worked in various capacities in the agency, as a Detective, as a member of the TAR team, the CIT team, where he is the current commander. He is a firearm instructor and has also been a recipient of the Ted Blair Memorial Award. Andrew was promoted to Sgt. In 2014, to Lieutenant in 2016. He takes over as patrol division commander this week.

3. *Lieutenant – Michael Miehle.* Chief Boudreau said that Mike is a native of New Jersey, and came to us by way of the Coast Guard, where he is in year 24 of service. They settled here in Rochester and Mike was hired in 2006 as a patrol officer. He served as a prosecutor and is well versed in the laws. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2011, and then in 2012 left us to go serve with the Newcastle Police Department. He came back to us in 2014, again as a patrol officer. He was promoted again to Sergeant in 2017. Mike is also a recipient of the Ted Blair Memorial Award.

4. *Sergeant – William Robinson.* Chief Boudreau said that Will comes to us by way of Connecticut. He is a graduate of Woodstock Academy and went on to serve in the Marines, where he attained the rank of Sgt., from 2009-2014. During tour distinct honor servicing on the Presidential protection detail. That is a testament to the type of Marine he was and the type of

officer he is. He attended several leadership schools in the Marines. We hired Will in 2017. He is a use of force instructor, an armorer and a member of our honor guard. He most recently served in our POP unit. The promotion to Sergeant is one of the hardest processes, but based on his past experiences we're expecting large things from him.

Executive Secretary Becky Warburton administered the oath of office for promotions to Deputy Chief – Jason Thomas, Captain – Andrew Swanberry, Lieutenant – Michael Miehle and Sergeant – William Robinson

A fifteen minute recess was called. Back in session at 7:34 P.M.

C. Monthly Reports:

1. Operations: The RUN program remains suspended during the pandemic. Capt. Pinkham reported that on the support side of operations there are 82 cases currently assigned. There were 13 cases presented to the Grand Jury and all were true bills. There were six phones analyzed by the Cellebrite machine this period. There were three call outs. There were two polygraphs and five backgrounds. Our evidence technician position is still open. We had a couple of conditional offers extended and those candidates withdrew from the process. Det. Rousseau is still filling that role. Evidence took in 198 pieces, returned 44 pieces and destroyed by court order 76 pieces. When we have a dedicated evidence person those numbers are usually larger. We continue to work on the backlog.

COMPSTAT: There was no compstat meeting this month due to the crime analyst being out of the office. We will have more to report next month.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER/PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING UNIT: The CEO and POP units have been temporarily reassigned for patrol staffing.

COMMUNICATIONS: Our newest specialist started this week. This still leaves us down three positions. We have conditionals extended and a couple of interviews scheduled. We received another resignation today, which leaves another opening. We hope to have positive news in the next reporting period.

Comm. Peters asked if any of the specialists are per diem.

Capt. Pinkham said that we do have a few. We use them when we can based on their availability.

DIVERSION: Our Diversion Coordinator is teaching LEAD at the high school with Officer Jackson. With recent changes made to juvenile law it will increase her workload and we will be monitoring that closely as those cases come through.

HIRING – Our three new recruits took and passed the physical agility for entrance to the Academy. Our recruit starting on Monday also took the PT and has been accepted into the February Academy. We have several other candidates in various stages of the background process.

HONOR GUARD: The Honor Guard participated in the holiday parade as well as the Change of Command ceremony.

HOUSING: Both officers are working various shifts, days and nights and weekends to get the maximum hours we can at the housing units. We have seen a decline in calls for service. Officers are handling issues on site that would normally go to patrol, which has helped. During the holidays the officers participated in food basket deliveries that were sponsored by Rotary and others. It is a good way to help those folks out during that time of year.

K9: Officer Hatch and Ripley are working on certifications. We are still accessing outside resources for K9 calls.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS: Officer Jackson has been working with the criminal justice classes, doing fingerprinting, and going to district court and the police department. He is also teaching LEAD and working with the Explorers.

Sgt. Deluca is continuing to teach LEAD and has attended random meetings at the school.

Officer Porfido remains detailed to patrol. We are waiting to return him to SRO duties.

TRAINING: Det. Frechette did Department wide CPR, AED and Narcan training, as well as DV training for the new recruits. Det. Root completed intro to investigations training for the new recruits.

Officers' Moon, Granatowski and Slankard were all released to solo patrol. We have extended field training for one of the recruits. The three recruits who graduated from the Academy in December still have a couple of make-up exams at the Academy, but all have started their field training.

2. Administrative. Chief Boudreau said there is no delivery date yet for the new cruisers, but we should be seeing them at the dealership in the next couple of weeks.

Comm. Peters asked of the front line cars, are any of them "dead."

Chief Boudreau stated that we have one that was totaled in an accident over the summer. We are waiting on the replacement. Overall, we are doing okay with the cars. We have had a couple of major repairs (water pump) for one the cars that is being traded. But overall we are in good shape with the cars.

Chief Boudreau said we've had our first meeting and crash course on FY23 budget entries in MUNIS. WE will be meeting weekly to meet the submission deadline of January 14, 2022. We are looking at what we need for personnel in FY23, but that is not anything I'm prepared to talk about in public yet.

Mobile Dispatching: The major renovations are complete and 2-Way is installing the radio rack. This will hopefully move that project along quickly.

Comm. Peters asked where with the unit be stored.

Chief Boudreau said at DPW, we are hoping for an under-cover over-hang.

Comm. Stevens asked if there were going to be arrangements to keep the trailer inside. It would make a huge difference.

Chief Boudreau said I don't think they have the space to put it inside. It will take up some real estate. It is something to look at for a CIP project for some type of shelter.

Comm. Stevens asked about the old DPW building.

Chief Boudreau said that would require a discussion with the City. I believe that DPW will be operating in some capacity there in the winter months.

Radio Replacement Project- The tower at DPW not brought on line this month. DPW personnel just started moving in this week. There are still switches and fiber connections to run before bringing that tower on line.

Body Cameras – We have a meeting with the finance committee to talk about the body camera project, due the pricing structure change. We expect to move forward and get the cameras ordered.

Comm. Peters asked about the state funding.

Chief Boudreau said that there was a roundtable meeting in late November and Comm. Stanley asked that question of the panel. The reply was that it is still under review at the Department of Safety. We are hoping that money is released before we are ready to order them so that we can fund at least part of the project.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received this period: Comm. Specialist Tiffany Pearce recognized for professionalism and empathy speaking with and following up on a reported suicidal person. Officer Colson is thanked by Assistant County Attorney Ramos for his outstanding job obtaining audio statements from witnesses. Officer Johnson and Officer Crawford are thanked for extra effort comforting a resident who recently lost his spouse in a motor vehicle accident. Officer Danie, Officer Jackson, Officer Porfido, Lt. Bossi, Capt. Pinkham and Capt. Thomas are thanked by Principal Justin Roy for their response to an incident at the school.

7. INFORMATION: None

8. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: (Pursuant to: RSA 91-A:3)

Commissioner Winship MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 7:56 P.M. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, paragraph II, section A (personnel). Comm. Stevens SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Winship – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Peters – yes.

The non-public session closed at 8:20 P.M. on a MOTION by Comm. Winship. Comm. Stevens SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Winship – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Peters – yes.

Comm. Stevens MOVED to seal the minutes of the non-public session. The motion was SECONDED by Comm. Winship. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Winship – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Peters – yes.

9. MISCELLANEOUS:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the evaluations and merit track advancements as presented for Sgt. Benjamin (track 3) Sgt. Tuner (track 2) Sgt. Krochmal (track 2) and the evaluation of Det. Frechette (top of grade). Comm. Peters SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Winship – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Peters – yes.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to adjourn. SECOND by Comm. Peters at 8:22 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton
Secretary

APPROVED BY COMMISSION: 02/02/2022