



**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, April 6, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in City Hall, Council Chambers. Participants in this meeting: Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens, Comm. Winship, Chief Boudreau, Dep. Chief Thomas, 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 Comm. Peters, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Winship present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. March 2, 2022 regular meeting.

Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the minutes of the March 2, 2022 meeting. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion to accept the minutes as presented PASSED 3-0 with Comm. Winship, Comm. Stevens and Comm. Peters all voting yes.

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

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Awards and Recognitions.

1. Officer Andrew Jackson - 20 years. Officer Jackson was recognized for his 20 years of dedicated services to the City of Rochester. Officer Jackson has held many roles in the Department and is in his second stint as the High School School Resource Officer. He plays a huge role in building positive relationships with our youths. Chief Boudreau stated "Andy is a very valued member of our department, and a staple of the community. Originally from Rochester, he is an active member of the community coaching youth sports."

Chief Boudreau issued a plaque to Officer Jackson which read in part: "In recognition of 20 years of dedicated service to the department and citizens of the City of Rochester, NH 2002 April 2022."

Officer Jackson was joined by his lovely wife, and two proud sons. Officer Jackson thanked his family for their love and support over the years.

A 5 minute recess was called. Back in session at 7:11 P.M.

B. Accept Resignations

1. Officer Eric Bilodeau

2. PT Officer Michael Mundy

Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the resignations of Officer Bilodeau and Officer Mundy, with regret. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED unanimously.

C. Accept Retirement Intent: Det. Robert Frechette

Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the retirement intent of Det. Robert Frechette with regret. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED unanimously.

D.. Monthly Reports

1). Operations. There are 48 cases under investigation. There were ten backgrounds assigned this period. Det. Rousseau resigned during this reporting period. He had been filling in as the evidence technician. We just filled that role.

COMPSTAT: Traffic stops are slightly lower and focused mainly on the compact and corridors through the city. Traffic collisions are down and in normal range. Our drug incidents are also in typical ranges. Drugs we are seeing include meth, fentanyl, heroin, MDMA and marijuana.

Property crime and violent crime continues trending downward.

Chief Boudreau added that he would like to make a change to the comp stat release. This report is February's. The way we currently release the comp stat report by the time we send that information to the city manager in a monthly report that is released to Council, it is stale. I'm going to start releasing the report to the Commission as soon as our meeting is completed, and we will post it to the website for our citizens so that the information people find in these reports is timely.

Comm. Peters commented that we would get the most recent report tomorrow, but not again in our packet. We can talk highlights at the meeting.

Chief Boudreau said correct. It is the timing of the Commission meeting and when the crime analyst is tallying the data for the report that drives this change.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER/PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING UNIT: CEO and POP remain assigned to Patrol. We have selected replacements for those who were promoted or transferred out of these positions. Off. Kimbrough was selected as the new community engagement officer. He participated with Waypoint, our Diversion Coordinator and school staff on the sleepout to

raise awareness for homeless youth. Officer Seager will return to the POP unit and be joined by Officer Colson when staffing allows.

COMMUNICATIONS: Dispatch is still down positions. We have two in field training, two in background and one open position still to fill.

The mobile dispatch trailer is still waiting on one part for the radio from Motorola, and it will be complete. Dispatch Supervisor Devine went and met with 2-Way and toured the trailer.

HONOR GUARD: The Honor guard presented the colors at the annual Battle of the Badges Hockey Game to benefit the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth. Four new members were appointed to the team.

HOUSING: With Officer Mundy's resignation, Officer Babine is now covering all housing areas.

K9: Ripley and Officer Hatch continue to work toward certification.

Comm. Peters asked if we have an anticipated date for this?

Capt. Swanberry replied no specific date. We have been using "Spring" as a goal.

2.) Administration: Dep. Chief Thomas advised that our FY23 budget is still with the City Manager. He is presenting the proposed budget to the City Council on April 19.

The cruisers we were authorized to purchase are in process of being scheduled for equipment install. One is outfitted and in use by patrol, the second is at the vendor and once that is complete the third will be scheduled.

HIRING In the hiring process there are four set to attend the upcoming academy. There is a potential fifth candidate that may also start on April 25. We have three certified officers interested in Rochester. Two are from New Hampshire and one is out of state. With some expected retirements announced we have started a new process for non-certified candidates for May 9 and May 16 with 12 confirmed attendees.

TRAINING The officers in field training are all on track for release to solo patrol. One was released a couple of weeks ago. One will be released this week and one next week. We have four other recruits in the Academy, finishing up week 9. Things are going well with them and all are expected to graduate May 27.

E. Other.

1. Body Camera Project. Chief Boudreau advised the contract was signed by the City Manager. The order for body cameras has officially been placed. As we have discussed NH has allocated money for these projects of up to \$50,000, or 50% of the cost whichever is the lesser amount. This is being managed through the Department of safety. We were one of approximately 39 agencies submitting applications. There is no word yet on if we are going to get any of the funding. I was told by the grant coordinator there is probably not enough money for everyone to get all of it.

Comm. Stevens commented the State was looking to allocate additional money for that.

Chief Boudreau said yes, that is before the legislature now. It may not be ready until next year. These grant monies cannot supplant local funding. We already had a CIP project in place but it didn't have enough funding to cover the whole five years, so we are adding to the funding, not supplanting the funding.

Comm. Peters asked if the Commission can get a demo once we receive the cameras.

Chief Boudreau said he would reach out to the vendor to coordinate that.

2. National Telecommunications Week. Chief Boudreau also noted that the week of April 10 to April 16 is National Telecommunicator Week. This group of employees are often overlooked, but they are first responders who don't get the recognition they deserve. The Dispatch Supervisor has several things planned next week with PD, Fire and EMS taking part.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received this period: Officers' Garneau, Gleason, Granatowski and Sgt. Williams Hurley are thanked for work organizing the Department Armory and getting a pallet of ammo stored for future qualifications. Officers Alexander, Crawford, Miller and Sgt. Robinson are thanked by a resident for their handling of a motor vehicle crash involving the resident's mother. Officers Crawford, Decost and Lt. Miehle are thanked for their recruitment efforts and participation in local job fairs. Off. Johnson was nominated for the 2021 Police Officer of the Year. Sgt. Benjamin was nominated for the 2021 Blair Memorial Award. Specialist Stevens was nominated for the 2021 Civilian Support Person of the Year. Specialist Brinkman is recognized for an exceptional job when EMS and Fire were inundated with multiple calls requiring apparatus from area communities. Sgt. Turner is thanked for kind and professional assistance helping a motorist who had run out of gas. Admin Tech Leah Benoit is recognized for exceptional and helpful assistance to a resident wishing to provide additional information to officers on an open case.

Comm. Stevens commented this is very well done by our Department personnel. To have recognition coming from the residents is nice to see.

Comm. Peters commented that a friend of his was stopped recently on Portland Street and the officer's demeanor calmed her and they said we want you to get safely to your destination. So kudos to our officers for being polite, but for also taking the time to make sure we explain why we stopped them and iterate their safety is important.

7. INFORMATION: None

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

Commissioner Stevens MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 7:28 P.M. pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, paragraph II, section A (personnel). Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Peters – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Winship – yes.

The non-public session closed at 8:08 P.M. on a MOTION by Comm. Stevens. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Peters – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Winship – 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. Peters – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Winship – yes.

9. MISCELLANEOUS:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the evaluations and merit track advancements as presented for Officer Govoni (track 7), Officer Aube (track 6). Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Peters – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Winship – yes.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Stevens MOVED to adjourn. SECOND by Comm. Winship at 8:09 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton
Secretary

APPROVED BY COMMISSION: 05/04/22