



**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, June 1, 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 and Secretary Warburton.

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. May 4, 2022 regular meeting.

**Comm. Stevens MOVED to accept the minutes of the May 4, 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. Monthly Reports

1). Operations. The honor guard did a flag detail for retiring Farmington Police Chief John Drury. They will be doing a flag detail for the CHaD (Children's Hospital at Dartmouth) football game later this month.

There are currently 55 cases open in investigations. There were three call outs this period and four backgrounds completed between dispatch and police officers.

There was light attendance this month in detectives as members attended training. Four attended a homicide course and one other attended 2 weeks of SWAT training.

**COMPSTAT:** Traffic crashes were down for the month. DWI crashes were consistent with prior months. We are monitoring DWI's found via crash vs those found otherwise.

Property crime was down 29%. The most notable decrease was in burglary and thefts from buildings. There are no concerning trends on violent crime.

Drug activity is consistent with prior months, although we are down 17% for the year. Drugs we consistently see are heroin, fentanyl, methamphetamines, marijuana, THC infused products and suboxone.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER/PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING UNIT:**

Officer Kimbrough is floating between patrol and CEO duties. He did attend the touch a truck event, has been working on the planning of Wings and Wheels and took part in the Drug Take Back Day.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Staffing in dispatch remains at concern. There are currently three full time openings. We are filling shifts with overtime and the Supervisor filling in.

The Mobile Dispatch unit is still pending installation of the radio equipment that is on order with Motorola.

The dispatchers got a tour of the middle school and high school so as to familiarize themselves with the layout of the building.

Chief Boudreau added to the Communications update that we have talked with Human Resources and the City Manager because we are at critical staffing level in the Center. We have asked Captain Pinkham to bring forward ideas on how to address the issue. This area is a critical piece of our operations. We are looking at all options that are on the table. We may have to fill the shifts with officers, on overtime, that are trained in there. We also talked with the fire chief about the potential of using a couple of fire personnel who have dispatching experience in prior employment. Rochester is not alone in this, other agencies are struggling to fill these positions as well.

Comm. Stevens commented the job is as tough as any and very stressful.

Chief Boudreau concurred stating these folks are often the forgotten aspect for public safety but they are really the first first responders.

Comm. Peters said before emergency services gets on scene, without the dispatch taking the initial call, these services are going in blind. They all do an amazing job in very stressful situations.

**HIRING:** We have four backgrounds underway. We have one officer starting at the end of June who is slated for the August academy. One candidate with a conditional offer withdrew his application.

If all of these candidates pass the background it will fill all current open patrol vacancies.

**K9:** The training is still progressing. Ripley is closer to certification in obedience, agility, tracking and evidence detection. She did make an attempt at certification but needs more time in tracking. In the meantime she has been in and out of the cruiser and interacting with the public.

**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS:** Comm. Peters inquired into the SRO's. We had to pull the elementary school SRO for staffing. The High School and Middle School though stayed staffed. As school winds down for the year how is that going to be programmed.

Capt. Swanberry advised that both have been teaching LEAD, doing normal school perimeter checks and working with school staff on any issues that fall within their role.

Chief Boudreau said Officer Jackson is slated to retire in July. While the FY23 budget has not been adopted by Council yet it does contain a request for a part time school resource officer. The intent is that Officer Jackson will come back part time.

**TRAINING** The recruits who graduated from the academy on May 27 will be finishing up some in-house training and then move to field training for about 10-12 weeks. Our already certified officer is from Rochester, so we anticipate his time in field training will not be as long.

There was a plethora of other training in May. Just to highlight a few. We sent four officers to a homicide course in Nashua. By registering three we got one free slot. We received great feedback from the officers that attended that class. Two officers attended level 1 & 2 of SWAT Training. We also sent supervisors to FBI LEEDA training. There are varying levels for the new supervisor, intermediate and executive levels. Capt. Swanberry commented he had been to the first two, so attending the third completed the trilogy. It was nice to be out with others interacting and networking.

Comm. Peters commented he feels you get more in a hands on environment than you do with virtual.

Comm. Stevens commented that it's important as a commission that we support training, and that we do so at all levels from patrol to the top. It makes us better and is also a good motivator to receive different types of training.

2.) Administration: Dep. Chief Thomas stated there are just about 29 days left in this fiscal year and we are just over 90% spent in O&M. The only purchase over \$5,000 this period was for body cameras, and that was from an approved CIP budget.

B. July 2022 Meeting: Discuss and Vote if Regular Commission meeting will be held in July. Comm. Peters said that the Police Commission normally does not meet in July unless it is necessary. We will schedule if needed.

**Comm. Stevens MOVED to suspend holding a regular meeting in July 2022, unless necessary. Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED 3-0.**

#### **E. Other.**

1. Comm. Peters thanked all of our veterans for their service to this great Country.

2. Comp Stat Check-In. Chief Boudreau said a couple of months ago we changed the way we deliver the comp stat to the Commission to address the time gap and information being stale. We just wanted to touch base on how that is working for the Commission.

Comm. Peters commented that getting a quick overview synopsis from the Captain, such as was done this evening was helpful.

Comm. Stevens concurred. The more current reporting is better.

3. Body Cameras. Chief Boudreau reached out to the Department of Safety on the status of the grant funding. Initially we were supposed to hear by early May. They have pushed that back to after June 1. The legislature recently approved more money for this grant program. We hope to know by the end of this month if we were awarded any funding.

4. Updated Patch. Chief Boudreau said that we will roll this out via social media but we undertook a project to update our shoulder patch to bring out where we are on the patch. Before “Rochester” was hidden through the center. Now it is prominent right at the top, and the artwork is crisp. (See attached.)

Comm. Stevens commented that this was a good team effort. It will serve us well and he is happy with the changes.

Comm. Peters inquired into the timeline for having them all changed over.

Chief Boudreau said by the end of this month we should have all the short sleeve shirts done. As we move into the new fiscal year we will start on the winter long sleeve shirts.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The following correspondence was received this period: Sgt. Robinson, Off. Gantert, Lt. Aucoin and Lt. Bossi are thanked by the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth for Honor Guard presentation at the Battle of the Badges Hockey game 2022. Sgt. Benjamin is thanked for skating in the 2022 CHaD Battle of the Badges Hockey game. Off. Knox is thanked for her compassion during a motorist assist. Off. Marshall is thanked for his kindness responding to a resident request to renew trespass notices. Off. Gantert is thanked for his attendance as part of the Honor Guard for retiring Farmington Police Chief John Drury. Dep. Chief Thomas is thanked by IAFF Local 1451 for participating on the interview panel for selection of a new Fire Chief. Sgt. Cost is thanked by the International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association for presenting at their annual conference.

## **7. INFORMATION: None**

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

**Commissioner Stevens MOVED to enter a nonpublic session at 7:21 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 7:49 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 of Officer Justin Livingstone (top of grade) and Officer Thomas Butcher (track 5). Comm. Winship SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED by roll call vote Comm. Peters – yes, Comm. Stevens – yes, Comm. Winship – yes.**

**Comm. Peters MOVED to award merit increases to Lt. Michael Miehle (3.5%); Captain Andrew Swanberry (3.5%), Dep. Chief Thomas (3.5%) and Chief Gary Boudreau (3.5%). Comm. Stevens 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 7:52 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted

Rebecca J. Warburton  
Secretary

APPROVED BY COMMISSION: 09/07/2022

**Shoulder Patch Design Late 1970's to 2022**



**Shoulder Patch Design Beginning June 2022**

