

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 11, 2005

The April 2005 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on April 11, 2005 at 7:00 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Dodaro called the meeting to order and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following members of the Police Commission being present; namely, William Dodaro, Donald Farris, Rose Hejl, and Ronald Vale. Also present were Police Chief Fred Frego and Town Council Liaison Chuck Pearson. Commissioner Robert Long and Attorney Timothy Kuiper, from the Law Firm of Austgen, Decker and Phillips, were not present at tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

Commissioner Vale made a motion to approve and accept the minutes from the March 14, 2005 Regular Meeting as written. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

There were no items of "Correspondence / Communication" presented at tonight's meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for March 2005. Chief Frego stated that from March 1, 2005 through March 31, 2005, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 21,149 duty miles and responded to 318 incidents. The investigation of these incidents resulted in 19 adult arrests with a total of 31 charges, and 10 juvenile arrests with a total of 10 charges. There were 266 traffic citations issued along with 94 written warnings and 0 parking violations. The grand total of citations issued during the month of March 2005 is 360 citations. Also during the month of February, vehicle thefts totaled \$3,500.00, and all other thefts totaled \$15,191.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00. Regarding grant activity, Chief Frego stated that the officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 41 traffic citations and 185 written warnings for a total of 226 citations being issued on the grants during the month of March 2005. The investigation of these violations resulted in 10 adult arrests with 20 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of March 2005.

ANNUAL TOW MEETING

Annual Tow Meeting – The following tow providers were present: Dave's Towing, Emerald Towing, Kubiak's Service and St. John Auto. There was no representation present from Stan's Body Shop and Towing. Commissioner Dodaro queried as to whether the tow representatives had any questions, comments, complaints, concerns or requests that they would like to make. All representatives indicated that they had none. Commissioner Dodaro then asked Emerald Towing if they do, in fact, have their own tow truck for semi-tractors/trailers. The

representative for Emerald Towing responded yes, they do, and he stated he was aware of a call wherein they were not able to respond with the proper tow truck, but that was due to the fact their semi tow truck had broke down, and he had to borrow another firm's tow truck. Emerald did advise they were able to get that particular vehicle removed from the roadway, so that it was not a traffic hazard, prior to the arrival of the borrowed tow truck. Chief Frego advised the tow firms should they experience any kind of problems, they should feel free to give him a call. Chief Frego stated he felt the providers are doing an excellent job, and their responses have been timely. Chief Frego also stated he felt the tow rotations were working out well. All tow providers advised they currently have no problems with the tow rotation.

OLD BUSINESS

Vest Update – Chief Frego advised that Corporal David Demeter has been researching different types of body armor. Further, the grant for the vest purchase is good until the Year 2007, and there is approximately \$7,400 left in that grant. (Originally, there was \$9,400 awarded on this grant.) Chief Frego stated that every officer who was in need of a vest now has a vest. The two (2) new officers have also been supplied with vests. Regarding future purchases, Chief Frego stated that the Department will spend a maximum of \$500 per vest. These purchases will be made only when needed, as some of the officers have vests that have not reached the end of their warranty dates.

REPORTS

Budget – There was nothing new to report on this topic.

Physical Plant – Chief Frego stated there was a pre-bid meeting held earlier today at 2:00 P.M., which mainly focused on the Public Works portion of the new complex (Phase I). When Phase I is completed, then they will begin on Phase II, which will involve demolition around the current station. Approximately 12-15 general contractors were present to receive the guidelines for the bids. Future meetings regarding the new complex are scheduled for April 21, 2005 and April 28, 2005. Chief Frego stated a lot of site preparation work is currently being conducted.

HUMAN RESOURCES

New Officer Update – Chief Frego stated the officers have five (5) more weeks of school remaining. They are both doing fine. Graduation is scheduled for the middle of May, 2005.

New Reserve Office Applicants – Orientation Update – Approximately 20 applicants were present for the Orientation Program. Testing of these applicants will begin on Saturday, April 16, 2005. Chief Frego advised the Department intends to hire five (5) new Reserve Officers.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of "New Business" brought before the Commission this evening.

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego stated he had no comments to make at this time.

ANY AND ALL

There were no matters received under this topic.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, May 9, 2005. There will be no Work Study Session held on May 9, 2005, so the Regular Public Meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. Any and all other Executive Sessions will be advertised pursuant to law.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hejl made a motion for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Farris, the meeting was adjourned.

Town of St. John, Lake County
Indiana, Board of Metropolitan
Police Commissioners

Rose Hejl, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Kolodziej, Recording Secretary