

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON JULY 10, 2006

The July 2006 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on July 10, 2006 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, and Ronald Vale. Also present were Police Chief Fred Frego and Town Council Liaison Charles Pearson. Commissioners Rose Hejl and Robert Long were not in attendance. Tonight's meeting did not require legal representation from the law firm of Austgen, Kuiper and Associates, PC.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

Commissioner Vale made a motion to approve and accept the minutes from the June 20, 2006 Regular Meeting as written. With a second by Commissioner Farris, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for June 2006. Chief Frego stated that from June 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,193 miles and responded to 461 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 23 adult arrests with 34 charges being filed and 2 juvenile arrests with 2 charges being filed. There were 240 traffic citations issued along with 69 written warnings for a total of 309 citations being issued during the month of June 2006 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of June, vehicle thefts totaled \$175,200.00, and all other thefts totaled \$34,227.00. The total value of recovered property was \$6,700.00. Regarding grant activity, Chief Frego stated that the officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / OSS / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 170 traffic citations and 175 written warnings for a total of 345 citations being issued on the grants during the month of June 2006. The investigation of these violations resulted in 21 adult arrests with 38 charges being filed and 2 juvenile arrests with 2 charges being filed on the grants for the month of June 2006.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no matters of "Old Business."

REPORTS

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

Physical Plant – Chief Frego advised that overall, the construction of the new building is on schedule. Currently, there is a slight delay due to having to wait for the steel and Flexicore to arrive so that the walls can be braced before backfilling. After backfilling, the brick layers will begin their work.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Creation of New Eligibility List - Chief Frego requested authorization to begin the process for hiring, inclusive of scheduling a test date, for the purpose of creating an Eligibility List for Full-Time Police Officer. Commissioner Dodaro requested a copy of the current Police Officer Application Packet for review and possible modification. Commissioner Dodaro also stated that within the next month, he would meet with Chief Frego to determine dates for advertising for applicants, release of the Application Packet, Orientation, testing, etc. However, Commissioner Dodaro stated prior to beginning this process, the matter will need to be reviewed by legal counsel. Some discussion ensued regarding the following topics: dates, fees for the application packet, the current test, and whether to hire a firm to do the testing. After some discussion, the Commission agreed to set the price of the Application Packet at \$25.00. However, the price is subject to change.

Commissioner Farris stated he congratulates Corporal Jay Dahlin and Corporal Dale Poston on their recent graduation from Staff and Command School. Chief Frego advised the Department now has seven (7) officers who have completed the Staff and Command School.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no matters of "New Business."

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego advised one of the newly detailed Dodge Chargers is on the road. Commissioner Farris stated he felt the new squad cars "look sharp." Chief Frego stated he has received a lot of positive comments on the new squad cars.

ANY AND ALL

Reserve Officer Joseph O'Leary addressed the Commission regarding recent changes to Indiana State Law wherein the eligible hiring age of a police officer has been extended to age 40. However, it is believed the Pension Board has not adapted the newly allowed age and therefore, a new hire aged 40 years would not be eligible for a pension through the State. Officer O'Leary inquired as to whether the Commission would abide by State Law regarding the possibility of hiring a new officer with an age of 40, but with the provision of some type of pension (annuity) for this officer. Some discussion ensued, and it was determined that this matter would require some investigation, as well as direction from legal counsel. Chief Frego suggested a Work Study Session be held before the start of the August Regular Meeting. Commissioner Dodaro advised the Commission will determine at a later date whether to hold a Work Study Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, August 14, 2006. There will be a Work Study Session only if deemed necessary. The Regular Public Meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. Any and all Executive Sessions will be advertised pursuant to law.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Farris made a motion for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Vale, 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