

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 5, 2008

The February 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on February 5, 2008 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, Rose Hejl, and Ronald Vale. Also present were Chief Fred Frego and Town Council Liaison Jerri Teibel. Both Commissioner Donald Farris and Commissioner Robert Long were out of town at the time of this meeting. No legal representation was present at the meeting. NOTE: Commissioner Farris will be out of town until the April meeting, and he sends his regrets for not being in attendance.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

December 10, 2007 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the December 10, 2008 meeting. With a second by Vale, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

ANNUAL TOW MEETING

Commissioner Dodaro welcomed the representatives from the tow firms that were present at tonight's meeting; namely, St. John Auto and Kubiak's Towing. The representatives advised there were no problems or complaints to be addressed, and thanked the Commission for the business. Chief Frego stated there are no existing problems to his knowledge, and the tow firms' service has been fine, prompt and very efficient. The Commission thanked the tow firms for their service and for attending tonight's meeting.

2007 YEAR-END REPORT

The Commission advised they had an opportunity to review the 2007 Year-End Report, and felt it was an excellent report. The report was very informative and very well put together.

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

There were no items of Correspondence and/or Communications brought before the Commission at tonight's meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for December 2007. Chief Frego stated that from December 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,965 miles and responded to 493 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 33 adult arrests with 50 charges being filed and 4 juvenile arrests with 5 charges being filed. There were 124 traffic citations issued along with 83 written warnings for a total of 207

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES – FEB. 5, 2008 – PAGE 2

citations being issued during the month of December 2007 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of December, vehicle thefts totaled \$3,800.00, and all other thefts totaled \$27,910.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00. Regarding grant activity, Chief Frego stated the officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / OSS / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 14 traffic citations and 10 written warnings for a total of 24 citations being issued on the grants during the month of December 2007. The investigation of these violations resulted in 0 adult arrests with 0 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of December 2007.

Chief Frego read the monthly report for January 2008. Chief Frego stated that from January 1, 2008 through January 31, 2008, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 22,596 miles and responded to 478 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 34 adult arrests with 53 charges being filed and 7 juvenile arrests with 8 charges being filed. There were 353 traffic citations issued along with 113 written warnings for a total of 466 citations being issued during the month of January 2008 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of January, vehicle thefts totaled \$10,000.00, and all other thefts totaled \$15,425.00. The total value of recovered property was \$10,000.00. Regarding grant activity, Chief Frego stated the officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / OSS / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 66 traffic citations and 34 written warnings for a total of 100 citations being issued on the grants during the month of January 2008. The investigation of these violations resulted in 8 adult arrests with 10 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of January 2008. There was a typographical error in the January 2008 Monthly Report, so Commissioner Hejl made a motion to accept the Chief's Monthly Report for January 2008 with the number of patrol miles being logged to read as "22,596" miles. With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

OLD BUSINESS

There were no matters of "Old Business."

REPORTS

Budget – Chief Frego advised that approximately a week and a half ago, the Town was informed that although the 2008 budget appropriations were granted, the State has informed all municipalities they will be operating off of their 2007 budget figures. Chief Frego stated the Town of St. John is in better shape than most towns, and this will continue to put a strain on most Towns until the State resolves the property tax issue that is currently being discussed in Indianapolis.

Physical Plant – Chief Frego advised there were some water problems in the basement of the new Public Safety Building wherein the conduit containing the fiber optic wires was leaking, but those issues have been resolved.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Reserve Officer Applicants – Chief Frego advised the five (5) new Reserve Officers have completed their 40-hour pre-basic training, and they have been outfitted for uniforms and vests. The new Reserve Officers are still in the training stages and on Saturday, they had training on Traffic Stops, and they have completed their Personal Defense Tactics Course. Currently, final arrangements are being made for the reserves to receive training on Deadly Force and Firearms at East Chicago PD's indoor range. The names of the five (5) new Reserve Officers are: Michael Bunnell, Ashley Camp, Toni Lozano, Jose Mendez, and Keith Totzke.

NEW BUSINESS

General Orders – The Commission was presented with several General Orders, some new and some revised. Chief Frego stated he is currently in the process of going through the Policies and Procedures Manual, and he is making changes where they are necessary. Chief Frego gave a brief explanation of the changes and/or new policies presented to the Commission for approval at tonight's meeting. After some discussion, Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the following as presented:

1. Revised Table of Contents for the St. John Police Department's Policy & Procedure Manual;
2. Revised General Order 2.01 – Barking Dog Complaints;
3. Revised General Order 2.02 – St. John Animal Control Officer – Emergency Call Outs;
4. Revised General Order 3.07 – Arrest Processing on Station;
5. New General Order 6.09 – Communicating with People who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired;
6. New General Order 19.20 – Bike Patrol; and
7. Revised General Order 21.01 – Sick Leave.

With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Due to the fact that the January meeting was cancelled, Chief Frego stated he did not have an opportunity to thank the Commission for their cooperation and the work that was put forth by them in the Year 2007, so he would like to thank the Commission now.

ANY AND ALL

The Commission welcomed the new Town Council Liaison Jerri Teibel. Mrs. Teibel stated she was glad to be back.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, March 10, 2008. 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 Hejl 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