

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 10, 2008

The March 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on March 10, 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 Robert Long. Also present were Chief Fred Frego and Town Council Liaison Jerri Teibel. Both Commissioner Donald Farris and Commissioner Ronald Vale were not present at this meeting. No legal representation was present at the meeting. NOTE: Commissioner Farris will be out of town until the April meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

February 5, 2008 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the February 5, 2008 meeting. With a second by Commissioner Long, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

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 February 2008. Chief Frego stated that from February 1, 2008 through February 29, 2008, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,253 miles and responded to 479 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 37 adult arrests with 49 charges being filed and 4 juvenile arrests with 6 charges being filed. There were 332 traffic citations issued along with 78 written warnings for a total of 410 citations being issued during the month of February 2008 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of February, vehicle thefts totaled \$16,000.00, and all other thefts totaled \$3,870.00. 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 74 traffic citations and 71 written warnings for a total of 145 citations being issued on the grants during the month of February 2008. The investigation of these violations resulted in 8 adult arrests with 15 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of February 2008.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no matters of "Old Business."

REPORTS

Budget – Chief Frego advised the Department is operating in 2008 on the 2007 Budget. It is not known at this time when monies will be forthcoming for Year 2008. Until matters get straightened out in Indianapolis, the Town will continue to proceed on the 2007 Budget.

Chief Frego stated in April 2007, the Police Department instituted the Infraction Deferral Program after the State Board of Accounts ruled that the St. John Driver Education Program could not continue. Since that time, the officers have done a tremendous job in writing tickets. To date, the Department has received approximately \$63,000 through the Infraction Deferral Program. These monies have been deposited into the Police Department's Special Equipment Fund. The attorney just filed another 146 Deferral Agreements. This has been a terrific program for the department. The monies will be used for the purchase of equipment and squad cars. In response to Commissioner Dodaro's inquiry, Chief Frego stated this program is much better than the St. John Driver Education Program as there is no manpower involved, and there are no classes being taught. The paperwork is filed through the Law Firm of Austgen and Kuiper, and they administer the program, inclusive of filing the tickets at Lake County. The Police Department does the follow up check on the Agreements. The Police Department then issues a letter to the defendants advising whether or not they successfully completed the terms of the Infraction Deferral Agreement.

Physical Plant – There was nothing new to report on this topic.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Reserve Officer Applicants – Chief Frego advised the five (5) new Reserve Officers have completed all aspects of their training, and they are currently in the Field Training Program on the street.

Chief Frego advised the Commission he felt discussion needed to be held regarding the future testing for the Lieutenants' and the Sergeants' positions. There currently is no testing or list in place at this time. Chief Frego recommended the use of the same testing company as was used with the last officer hiring; namely, Standard and Associates out of Chicago, Illinois. This firm is endorsed by the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police. Their test is a tried and true test, and it has stood up against all the legal challenges that have been thrown at it. Chief Frego stated he would like to have an established list for Lieutenants and Sergeants by the end of Spring or the beginning of Summer. Some discussion ensued regarding scheduling an Executive Session. The Commissioner determined they would schedule an Executive Session for this purpose on Monday, April 21, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. in the Conference Room at the Town Hall, 10955 W. 93rd Avenue, St. John, Indiana.

NEW BUSINESS

Revised Organizational Chart – The Commission was presented with a revised Organizational Chart for the St. John Police Department. After a brief review, Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the revised Organizational Chart as presented. With a second by Commissioner Long, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego had no comments.

ANY AND ALL

It was brought to the Commission's attention that the current Eligibility List for Patrolman expires in November 2008. After a short discussion, the Commission decided this matter would be discussed as well at the Executive Session scheduled for April 21, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, April 14, 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 Long, 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