

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 10, 2009

The August 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on August 10, 2009 at 7:00 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Dodaro called the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 P.M. 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, Robert Long and Ronald Vale. Also present was Chief Fred Frego. Town Council Liaison Jerri Teibel was not present. No legal representation was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

July 13, 2009 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the July 13, 2009 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Long, the motion carried unanimously (5-0).

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 July 2009. Chief Frego stated that from July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,420 miles and responded to 631 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 29 adult arrests with 41 charges being filed, and 1 juvenile arrest with 2 charges being filed. There were 248 traffic citations issued along with 48 written warnings for a total of 296 citations being issued during the month of July 2009 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of July, vehicle thefts totaled \$18,000.00, and all other thefts totaled \$19,703.00. The total value of recovered property was \$435.00. Regarding grant activity, the officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / OSS / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 31 traffic citations and 22 written warnings for a total of 53 citations being issued on the grants during the month of July 2009. The investigation of these violations resulted in 1 adult arrest with 1 charge being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of July, 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of "Old Business" for tonight's meeting.

REPORTS

Budget – Chief Frego stated he was advised the Police Department’s 300 Line items are all negative now. The 300 Line items are all operating items like building maintenance, vehicle maintenance, etc. These items are currently being funded with revenue received from the Infraction Deferral Program. This may change at a later date, but for the rest of the year, “it’s slim pickins’.”

Chief Frego stated he learned about two (2) weeks ago, the only towns in the area to receive funds from the Stimulus Grant were East Chicago, Gary and Merrillville. Chief Frego stated it would have taken eight billion dollars to fill all the requests. Of the requests received, only 14% were granted; 86% were not, and St. John fell into the 86% category.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Police Officer Eligibility List – Chief Frego stated that as of today, 76 application packets have been picked up. Applicants have until Friday, August 14, 2009 at 4:30 P.M. to pick up an application.

Chief Frego advised there have been some injuries to the Department’s officers. Reserve Officer Jeff Gembala broke his ankle, and Officer Mike Moffitt has a broken wrist. Officer Moffitt is expected to be off work for 6-8 weeks. Corporal Dave Demeter was just released for duty from his injury. Some discussion ensued.

Chief Frego confirmed that the Orientation for the police officer applicants will be on September 19, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. in the Public Safety Facility’s Training Room. The Physical Agility test will be conducted on September 26, 2009 at 9:00 A.M. (at a location to be determined). The Written Exam will be held on October 3, 2009 (at a location to be determined). After some discussion, the Commission decided to call an Executive Session, for the purpose of reviewing the police officer applications, on Friday, September 4, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. in the Public Safety Facility.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items brought up under “New Business.”

CHIEF’S COMMENTS

Chief Frego stated the Department’s Second Annual “Night Out Against Crime” was held last Tuesday, August 4, 2009, and it was a success. Chief Frego thanked members of the Police Commission for being present at this event. This was the first time Town Council Members were present as well. Many positive comments were received, and the St. John Chamber has expressed an interest in being more involved in next year’s event. Some discussion ensued.

ANY AND ALL

There were no matters brought up under “Any and All.”

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no “Public Comment” at tonight’s meeting.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, September 14, 2009. The Regular Public Meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. There will be a Work Study Session only if deemed necessary. An Executive Session will be held on Friday, September 4, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of reviewing the police officer applications. 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 at approximately 7:20 P.M.

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

Rose Hejl, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Kolodziej, Recording Secretary