

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MARCH 8, 2010

The March 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on March 8, 2010 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, and Ronald Vale. Also present was Assistant Chief of Police Frank Chapranda and Town Council Member Jerri Teibel. Commissioner Robert Long and Police Chief Fred Frego were both out of town and not present. No legal representation was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

February 8, 2010 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the February 8, 2010 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant Chief of Police Chapranda read a thank you card from Ms. Delores Duncan, of 9356 Hart Street, reference a 911 call she made on February 17, 2010 at approximately 8:30 P.M. regarding a suspicious person knocking at her door. Upon officers' arrival, it was determined the suspicious person was actually a known party to Mrs. Duncan. Mrs. Duncan stated she greatly appreciated the Department's efforts and actions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Assistant Chief Chapranda read the monthly report for February 2010. Chief Frego stated that from February 1, 2010 through February 28, 2010, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 17,054 miles and responded to 435 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 19 adult arrests with 24 charges being filed, and 6 juvenile arrests with 7 charges being filed. There were 298 traffic citations issued along with 60 written warnings for a total of 358 citations being issued during the month of February 2010 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of February, vehicle thefts totaled \$0.00, and all other thefts totaled \$21,038.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00. There was no grant activity during the month of February 2010.

OLD BUSINESS

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

REPORTS

Budget – There was nothing new to report on the Budget.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Police Officer Eligibility List – Commissioner Dodaro stated there will be an Executive Session held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 8:00 A.M. for the purpose of creating an Initial Police Officer Eligibility List, which will not include the addition of the Military/College preference point. It is anticipated that the Final Police Officer Eligibility List will be completed and posted in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval to Enter into an Agreement Reference the Formation of a SWAT Team – Towns of Highland, Munster and St. John – Assistant Chief Chapranda advised the Police Department was requesting permission and approval to move forward and enter into an agreement for formation of a SWAT Team with the Town of Munster. As of today, Highland has dropped out of this agreement, and it will be only between Munster and St. John. Commissioner Dodaro questioned if there has been any discussion of forming a SWAT Team with neighboring towns such as Dyer, Schererville, and Cedar Lake. Assistant Chief Chapranda stated Schererville has already entered into an agreement with Merrillville, and he was not sure about any other discussions. Commissioner Hejl made a motion to grant approval to the St. John Police Department to move forward with the Agreement for the formation of a SWAT Team between the towns of St. John and Munster. With a second by Commissioner Farris, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

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

ANY AND ALL

There were no items brought before the Commission under "Any and All."

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Andy Tilka, of Tom & Ed's Auto Body and Towing, introduced himself to the Commission and advised that his business had recently inquired into being included in St. John's tow rotation. Mr. Tilka stated he was well aware that St. John currently has three (3) tow firms, as

per Town Ordinance, but he just wanted to make the Commission aware that their services are available. Mr. Tilka stated that they are a family owned business that has been operating since 1983. They have locations in Schererville, Crown Point and Merrillville. Mr. Tilka stated they have a 24-hour towing fleet, and they offer a 20 minute response time as their employees take the tow trucks home. Further, they offer auto body repair with a quick turn around time.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, April 12, 2010. The Regular Public Meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. There will be a Work Study Session only if deemed necessary. Any and all 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 at approximately 7:10 P.M.

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

Rose Hejl, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary