

## **ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2010**

The October 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on October 11, 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 Chief of Police Fred Frego. Commissioner Robert Long was not present at the meeting. No legal representation was present at the meeting. Town Councilmen Michael Forbes and Mark Barenie arrived shortly after the start of the meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES**

**August 9, 2010 Regular Meeting** - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the August 9, 2010 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Farris, the motion carried unanimously (4-0). The September 13, 2010 Regular Meeting was cancelled due to the lack of quorum, and it was not rescheduled.

### **CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS**

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

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT**

Chief Frego read the monthly report for September 2010. Chief Frego stated that from September 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 16,395 miles and responded to 485 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 23 adult arrests with 33 charges being filed, and 2 juvenile arrests with 2 charges being filed. There were 255 traffic citations issued along with 109 written warnings for a total of 364 citations being issued during the month of September 2010 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of September, vehicle thefts totaled \$0.00, and all other thefts totaled \$7,675.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00. The officers of the St. John Police Department, while working the OPO / BCC / DDE / DUI Taskforce Grants, issued 50 traffic citations and 38 written warnings for a total of 87 citations being issued on the grants during the month of September 2010. 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 September 2010.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Revised General Order 14.07 – Station Video Recording Equipment** – Chief Frego advised he is still waiting for input from the Prosecutor's Office regarding standardization of this matter. This matter will be deferred till next month's meeting.

**REPORTS**

**Budget** – Chief Frego advised they are working hard on the 2011 Budget.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Human Resources** – Commissioner Dodaro advised the Sergeant's Test is scheduled for Saturday, November 13, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. at the St. John Police Department. Chief Frego stated the tests have arrived, and they are currently sealed and locked in the Chief's Office. Further, the Study Guides have arrived. Chief Frego stated he was able to rent a set of the five (5) study books for 120 days. There are four (4) corporals who will be taking the test. Only one (1) corporal did not submit a letter advising of his interest to participate in the testing process to create an Eligibility List for Sergeant.

Chief Frego advised the Commission that Officer Steve Rudzinski was off on sick leave after ongoing a serious surgery to remove a five (5) pound goiter from his neck. He is expected to return to work on or about October 20, 2010.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There were no matters of "New Business."

**CHIEF'S COMMENTS**

Chief Frego advised he received an e-mail from Lieutenant Richard Kouder advising of his intent to retire from the Police Department effective December 18, 2010. Chief Frego stated Lt. Kouder has already completed the appropriate paperwork and submitted it to the Town. However, as of this date, Assistant Chief Frank Chapranda has not committed as to whether he will be retiring also. Some discussion was held regarding the DROP Program and the officers' retirements. In response to Commissioner Dodaro's question, Chief Frego stated that at this time, plans for a retirement party are inconclusive. However, it is anticipated that one will be held. Chief Frego stated Lt. Kouder has 35 years of service with the Department, and Assistant Chief Chapranda has approximately 36 years of service. Chief Frego stated he has ordered the retirement stars (badges) for both officers.

**ANY AND ALL**

Councilman Barenie questioned if the Sergeant's Test, which the corporals are currently studying for, is 100 percent of the process. Commissioner Dodaro advised the test was only part of the process. He explained that after the officers have completed taking the test, it will be sent out for grading to the Company from where it was purchased. When the graded tests are returned, the Commission will open the results and review who passed and who did not. Those corporals that pass the written test will then be scheduled for oral interviews with the Commission, probably sometime during the first week of December 2010. The Eligibility List for Sergeant will be published prior to the retirement of current administrators who are anticipating leaving the Department in December. Councilman Barenie queried as to the percentage rate

for the pass/fail of this test. Commissioner Dodaro stated the corporals need to score at least 70% in order to pass the test. Commissioner Dodaro advised this test can be very involved and if the corporals do not read the material, they are not going to pass the test. It all depends on how hard they study. Councilman Barenie asked if there was a national percentage rate for the pass/fail of this test. Commissioner Dodaro stated he had no idea. Chief Frego said this particular test is endorsed by the Indiana Chiefs of Police Association, and it is for entry level supervision and for first line supervision. Chief Frego stated he has seen some of the sample questions, and he did not feel it was difficult. It is important to know terms and definitions in order to pass the test, and it covers community policing and patrol techniques. Commissioner Dodaro stated he anticipates that all four (4) corporals will pass the test. Chief Frego commented that both he and Commissioner Dodaro took the test, and they both passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no "Public Comment" at tonight's meeting.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, November 8, 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.

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

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Rose Hejl, Secretary

ATTEST:

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Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary