

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

The September 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on September 12, 2011 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, Don Farris, Rose Hejl and Ron Vale. Also present were Chief of Police Fred Frego and Town Councilman Kenneth Gembala. Commissioner Robert Long was not present. No legal representation was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

July 11, 2011 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the July 11, 2011 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

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 August 2011. Chief Frego stated that from August 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 15,892 miles and responded to 547 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 22 adult arrests with 34 charges being filed, and 5 juvenile arrests with 11 charges being filed. There were 230 traffic citations issued along with 26 written warnings for a total of 256 citations being issued during the month of August 2011 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of August, vehicle thefts totaled \$0.00, and all other thefts totaled \$8,541.00. 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 205 traffic citations and 85 written warnings for a total of 290 citations being issued on the grants during the month of August 2011. The investigation of these violations resulted in 5 adult arrests with 8 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of August 2011.

Chief Frego stated the officers working the grant issued an additional 205 tickets, which is above and over the duty tickets. He stated the officers are working hard on the grant, which is usually a 6-hour shift after their regular duty shift. The high mileage on the grant officers' vehicles is due to this extra enforcement. With the extra tickets being written, the number of Infraction Deferral sign-ups has gone up as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave's Towing – Removal from Heavy Wrecker Tow List – Recording Secretary Joan Gorcos advised the certified letter which was sent to Dave's Towing has been returned as undeliverable. Contact was made using a previous telephone number for Dave's Towing, and it was confirmed that the towing outfit has gone out of business. In light of this information, Commissioner Dodaro stated that Dave's Towing is to be removed from the list of heavy tow providers, and the returned correspondence is to be kept with these minutes.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Chief Frego advised the Department is in the process of appointing five to six new Reserve Officers. The training schedule is being put together by Corporal Dale Poston. The 40-hour pre-basic course is no longer available on line; therefore, it will be live instruction held in a classroom setting. Further, Chief Frego advised former Reserve Officer Gary Ginaven has expressed an interest in returning to the Reserve Officer Program. Commissioner Gembala was asked as to when Reserve Officer Jeff Gembala might be returning, and he stated Jeff is in school at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of "New Business."

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego stated he recently came back from a conference in Indianapolis, which was very informative. Chief Frego also advised that the 911 Consolidation Meetings are being held at the St. John Public Safety Facility. The meetings will be posted according to law, and they are open to the public. The first meeting reference the 911 consolidation was held in August, wherein a Board was elected. Chief Frego stated the committee is moving forward regarding the consolidation.

ANY AND ALL

Commissioner Dodaro apologized to Town Councilman Gembala for the lack of communication last month when the Police Commission Meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. Commissioner Hejl requested Councilman Gembala's cell phone so that she could contact him in the future regarding any meeting cancellations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no "Public Comment."

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, October 10, 2011. 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 Vale, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M. (4-0).

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

Rose Hejl, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary