

## **ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 9, 2012**

The January 2012 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on January 9, 2012 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, Rose Hejl, Robert Long, and Ron Vale. Also present was Chief of Police Fred Frego. Commissioner Donald Farris and Town Council Liaison Kenneth Gembala were not present. Commissioner Dodaro acknowledged the presence of Councilmen Mike Forbes and Greg Volk at tonight's meeting. No legal representation was present at the meeting.

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

**December 12, 2011 Regular Meeting** - Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the December 12, 2011 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Long, 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 December 2011. Chief Frego stated that from December 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 16,988 miles and responded to 466 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 13 adult arrests with 19 charges being filed, and 2 juvenile arrests with 2 charges being filed. There were 104 traffic citations issued along with 53 written warnings for a total of 157 citations being issued during the month of December 2011 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of December, vehicle thefts totaled \$26,400.00, and all other thefts totaled \$2,290.00. 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 362 traffic citations and 177 written warnings for a total of 539 citations being issued on the grants during the month of December 2011. The investigation of these violations resulted in 3 adult arrests with 3 charges being filed and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed on the grants for the month of December 2011.

Chief Frego stated the combined total of Duty and Grant citations indicates that there were 466 traffic citations issued in the month of December. The year-to-date total of Citations and Warnings (both duty and grant activity) issued is 6,633. Chief Frego stated that there were 219 Infraction Deferral Agreements during the month of December, for a total of 1,767 Agreements

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for the year. The officers conducted 739 traffic stops in December, for a total of 7,031 traffic stops for the year. Commissioner Dodaro stated that the number of traffic citations was an incredible number, as well as the year total of 7,031 traffic stops was incredible. Commissioner Dodaro stated there must be a lot of speeders on US 41.

Commissioner Long asked Chief Frego if all the Infraction Deferral monies go directly to the Police Department. Chief Frego explained that of the \$184.00 Infraction Deferral fee the violator pays, the Police Department receives \$112.00. Lake County receives the remaining \$72.00. Some discussion ensued.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There were no items of "Old Business."

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Chief Frego commented that after 35 years of service, Sergeant Bernard J. Johnsen retired from the St. John Police Department effective January 2, 2012.

Chief Frego stated all the new Reserve Officers are now entering Phase III of the Field Training Program. In Phase III, the new Reserve Officers will be riding with supervisors, who will be evaluating them. All the New Reserves Officers are doing really well. Chief Frego stated he is looking forward to getting them up to full speed so that they can augment the full-time officers in the near future.

Commissioner Dodaro asked Chief Frego if he had any plans on requesting replacements for the officers who have left the department. Chief Frego advised yes, but later. Commissioner Dodaro stated they will address this matter when it comes before them.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no items of "New Business."

### **CHIEF'S COMMENTS**

Chief Frego had no comments.

### **ANY AND ALL**

There were no items of "Any and All."

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Dodaro stated his son-in-law, who was in the audience and who is a resident in St. John, had an alarm call at his residence. It turned out to be a false alarm. The son-in-law and daughter were just a few blocks away from their home when they saw two (2) squad cars with lights and sirens go past them. They turned around and sure enough, they had accidentally set off their alarm when they had left. Commissioner Dodaro stated it was a credit to the St. John Police Department as to how quickly the officers responded to the residence. Some discussion ensued.

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, February 13, 2012. 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 7:07 P.M. (4-0).

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