

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 8, 2013

The April 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on April 8, 2013 at 6:30 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Dodaro called the meeting to order promptly at 6:30 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 were Chief of Police Fred Frego and Town Council Liaison Kenneth Gembala. Commissioner Robert Long was not present. No legal representation was in attendance at the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairman – Commissioner Farris made a motion to nominate William Dodaro as Chairman. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Vice-Chairman – Commissioner Farris made a motion to nominate Rose Hejl as Vice-Chairman. With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Secretary – Commissioner Farris made a motion to nominate Ronald Vale as Secretary. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Recording Secretary – Commissioner Farris made a motion to nominate Joan Gorcos as Recording Secretary. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

March 11, 2013 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Vale made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the March 11, 2013 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for March 2013. Chief Frego stated that from March 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,476 miles and responded to 452 incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 36 adult arrests with 59 charges being filed, and 1 juvenile arrest with 1 charge being filed. There were 314 traffic citations issued along with 49 written warnings for a total of 363 citations being issued during the month of March 2013 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also

during the month of March, vehicle thefts totaled \$8,500.00, and all other thefts totaled \$9,817.00. The total value of recovered property was \$8,500.00. The total number of traffic stops for the month of March was 835.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of "Old Business."

HUMAN RESOURCES

COPS Grant to Hire a Veteran – Commissioner Dodaro stated the Commission is currently in the process of hiring a veteran through the COPS Grant. To date, they have completed the orientation, physical agility and the written test. The written test results have been received, and the Commission is now moving forward with the oral interviews. Commissioner Dodaro stated it was his recommendation to schedule the interviews for as soon as possible. After some discussion, it was agreed the oral interviews would be scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2013, starting at 8:00 A.M., with interviews being scheduled every 20 minutes. A half hour break would be scheduled in for lunch. Tuesday, April 16, 2013, was selected as the alternate date for applicants who are cannot make an interview appointment on Saturday. Tuesday's interviews will begin at 6:40 P.M. Some discussion ensued.

Chief Frego stated he felt the Evaluation Forms, which are utilized during the interviews, needed to be revised. Chief Frego stated the current form is not reflective of what they are looking for in the applicants, plus he feels the criteria and the order it is listed in is confusing. Chief Frego stated that most likely time would not allow for the form to be modified by the interviews on Saturday, April 13th, but he would like the form revised before they begin another hiring process. Chief Frego stated this matter could be discussed further in the Executive Session immediately following this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

New General Order 18.00 – School Resource Officer – The Commissioners advised they had an opportunity to review the proposed new General Order 18.00 – School Resource Officer, with one area needing clarification. Regarding the first page, under Section II - Objectives, Item C, which reads, *"School Resource Officers shall offer individual counseling to students who are in need of crisis intervention, legal advice, ..."* Commissioner Dodaro stated he assumed the "legal advice" was on a law enforcement basis. Chief Frego advised it was. Commissioner Dodaro stated he was clear on this matter, but he was concerned the other commissioners possibly were not. Commissioner Farris then asked if there would be any training for the School Resource Officer. Chief Frego stated training was required, and the officer would be going to the training provided by the National Association of School Resource Officers. This particular training, which is a 40-hour training course, would be in June, and it will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Chief Frego stated the Department has already reserved a spot for the new School Resource Officer to attend this course. Commissioner Hejl made a motion to approve new General Order 18.00 – School Resource Officer as written. With a second by Commissioner Farris, the motion carried unanimously (4-0). Commissioner Hejl then made a motion to

approve the revised Table of Contents as presented. With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego advised he had no further comments to make at tonight's meeting.

ANY AND ALL

There were no items brought up during "Any and All."

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no matters of "Public Comment."

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting should be held on Monday, May 13, 2013. The Regular Public Meeting will begin at 6:30 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 Farris made a motion for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Hejl, the motion carried (4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 P.M.

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

Ronald Vale, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary