

## **ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MARCH 10, 2014**

The March 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on March 10, 2014 at 6:30 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Hejl 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, Rose Hejl, Ronald Vale, Frank Chapranda, and Paul Haluska. Also present were Chief of Police Fred Frego and Town Councilman Kenneth Gembala. Commissioner Robert Long was running late; he arrived at approximately 6:45 P.M. No legal representation was in attendance at the meeting.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**Appointments of Commissioners** – Commissioner Hejl advised the Appointments of Commissioners will be deferred until later in tonight's meeting as the Commission was going to address this topic once Commissioner Long arrived.

### **ANNUAL TOW MEETING**

**The Annual Tow Meeting** – Representatives from Kubiak's Service and Stan's were present in the audience. Mr. Joe Kubiak, of Kubiak's Service, advised everything was going good. Mr. Dan Lukasik, of Stan's Towing, also stated everything was going good. Chief Frego stated service was good from the tow firms. There were no further comments. Chief Frego requested it be noted there were no representatives present from St. John Towing or Emerald Towing. Commissioner Vale stated he has heard the tow firms are doing a great job.

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

**January 13, 2014 Regular Meeting** - Commissioner Chapranda moved to approve the minutes as written from the January 13, 2014 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Haluska, 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 February 2014. Chief Frego stated that from February 1, 2014 through February 28, 2014, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 16,836 miles and responded to 419 law incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 11 adult arrests with 38 charges being filed, and 0 juvenile arrests with 0 charges being filed. There were 181 traffic citations issued along with 42 written warnings for a total of 223

citations being issued during the month of February 2014 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 \$3,025.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**2013 Year-End Report** – Commissioner Hejl stated she would like to recognize the 2013 Year-End Report that was on the Agenda for the February 10, 2014 meeting that was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. Commissioner Vale commented that it was a good report. The Commission thanked Administrative Assistant Joan Gorcos for the work she does on the Year-End Report.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Retirement of Officer E. Andersen** – Chief Frego advised Officer Eric Andersen retired from the St. John Police Department on February 28, 2014 after 29 years of service. A retirement party for Officer Andersen is going to be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, at 6:00 P.M. at the St. John VFW. Chief Frego stated he has approved Officer Andersen's request to become a St. John Reserve Officer. Officer Andersen has already accepted a new position with Judge Sam Cappas, and is currently working at the Lake County Government Center.

Chief Frego advised with the retirement of Officer Andersen, a conditional offer of employment was extended to the first candidate on the Department's Eligibility List; namely, Ms. Stevie Bradich. Ms. Bradich sent an e-mail respectfully declining the offer as she is currently in the Police Academy in Illinois due to her acceptance of a police officer's position with an Illinois Police Department. Therefore, a second conditional offer of employment was made to the second applicant on the list; namely, Ronald Olson. Mr. Olson is currently a certified police officer, who is a graduate of ILEA, and who is presently employed with the University of Indianapolis' Police Department. Mr. Olson has accepted the conditional offer of employment. His physical and psychological tests have been scheduled. Upon his successful completion of these exams, his application will be forwarded to PERF for approval.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no matters of "New Business."

### **CHIEF'S COMMENTS**

Chief Frego stated he felt the St. John police officers did a good job this winter with the adverse weather conditions the area suffered this year. Chief Frego stated the Public Works Department and Fire Department also did well with the severe weather. Chief Frego stated he is looking forward to nicer weather; however, he heard there is more snow coming.

Chief Frego advised the new vehicles (Ford Explorers) are now on the road and they are look really nice. Further, Chief Frego stated the Town Council approved a 4x4 pickup truck for the Police Department at their meeting held last week. Delivery of this new vehicle is expected to

be within 6-8 weeks. When the truck arrives, it will be marked and put into regular service. Chief Frego stated the Police Department's fleet of vehicles is looking better.

As the Commission is aware, Chief Frego stated the Police Department is going through the process of Accreditation through ILEAC. Chief Frego advised Commissioner Haluska is familiar with Accreditation as he was involved with it when he was with the Schererville Police Department. Commissioner Haluska stated he was familiar with the CALEA Accreditation. Chief Frego advised the two (2) Accreditation Programs are basically the same; however, ILEAC has approximately 172 standards while CALEA has almost 500 standards. In June, ILEAC is going to increase the number of standards to 250, so the Police Department will have to increase our number of standards as well.

In light of questions from the Commission as to when they will be able to review the new standards, Chief Frego stated he received some very good information about Power DMS, which is an expensive software program for publishing the standards short of printing hard copies for all subscribers. The software has been ordered, but it has not arrived yet. The Department will be allowed 50 subscribers. Once the software is received and installed, and the policies are downloaded into the program, the Commissioners will then get access to the policies. Chief Frego stated not only do our policies have to be re-written to conform to the Accreditation; the Department will have to prove the policies are being practiced and enforced.

Commissioner Haluska stated he recalled that CALEA had an issue regarding reserve officers, and he queried if the same was true with ILEAC. Chief Frego stated he was aware CALEA did not like Reserve Officers. Commissioner Haluska said it was not that CALEA did not like Reserve Officers; it was that there was a very specific way they had to be trained. Basically, Reserve Officers had to go to a 15 week police academy at NILEA. Commissioner Haluska stated the only time he has seen this done was through the Town Marshall system. Some discussion was then held regarding the topic of Reserve Officers and Accreditation.

Chief Frego stated he was looking forward to getting the Power DMS System and then getting the policies out for review by the Commission. Commissioner Haluska stated the Power DMS System is good if it is used. More discussion ensued between Chief Frego and Commissioner Haluska about the Accreditation.

At 6:44 P.M., Commissioner Hejl called a five minute recess to await the arrival of Commissioner Long. Commissioner Long arrived at approximately 6:45 P.M. The meeting resumed at 6:47 P.M.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**Chairman** – Commissioner Chapranda moved to appoint Commissioner Ronald Vale as Chairman. With a second by Commissioner Haluska, the motion carried 3-1. Commissioner Hejl opposed the motion.

**Vice-Chairman** – Commissioner Vale moved to appoint Commissioner Frank Chapranda as Vice-Chairman. With a second by Commissioner Long, the motioned carried 3-1. Commissioner Hejl opposed the motion.

**Secretary** – Commissioner Long moved to appoint Commissioner Paul Haluska as Secretary. With a second by Commissioner Vale, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

**Recording Secretary** – Commissioner Vale moved to appoint Joan Gorcos as Recording Secretary. With a second by Commissioner Haluska, the motion carried unanimously (4-0).

**ANY AND ALL**

There were no matters of "Any and All."

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no matters of "Public Comment."

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next Regular Meeting should be held on Monday, April 14, 2014. 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 Vale moved for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Haluska, the motion carried (4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 P.M.

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

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Paul Haluska, Secretary

ATTEST:

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Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary