

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JUNE 9, 2014

The June 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on June 9, 2014 at 6:30 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Vale 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, Ronald Vale, Frank Chapranda, Paul Haluska, Rose Hejl and Robert Long. Also present were Chief of Police Fred Frego and Town Councilman Kenneth Gembala. No legal representation was in attendance at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

May 12, 2014 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Chapranda moved to approve the minutes as written from the May 12, 2014 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Long, the motion carried unanimously (5-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Haluska read a letter dated May 7, 2014, from Nancy Bogie of 12775 W. 93rd Avenue, St. John, Indiana. Said letter thanked the St. John Police Department for their recent efforts to control the speed of motorists on W. 93rd Avenue and on White Oak Avenue. Ms. Bogie stated the officers' efforts have made a positive difference, and have eased the task of backing out of her driveway onto W. 93rd Avenue. Further, with the reduced speed of the traffic in the area, drivers are able to make left turns on to, and off of, W. 93rd Avenue without holding up traffic, and the tire screeching at the corner of White Oak Avenue and W. 93rd Avenue seems to have been eliminated.

Commissioner Hejl advised she had a verbal communication she would like to share with the Commission. She stated approximately a week before last month's meeting, Adrian Bugariu stopped her and wanted her to confirm that Ron Vale was the Chairman (of the Police Commission). Commissioner Hejl stated she confirmed Commissioner Vale was the Chairman. She stated Mr. Bugariu went on to tell her how he was friends with Commissioner Vale's son, and how they knew each other very well. Commissioner Hejl then stated Adrian Bugariu wanted her to be sure to tell Commissioner Vale he (Adrian Bugariu) was behind him in whatever he was going to do to get rid of Chief Frego, Mike Fryzel and Steve Kil. Commissioner Vale asked Commissioner Hejl why Adrian Bugariu would say such things. Commissioner Vale stated he has not spoken with Adrian Bugariu in 15 years. Commissioner Hejl stated she thought Commissioner Vale should know what Mr. Bugariu said. Commissioner Vale stated he appreciated her (Commissioner Hejl) letting him know. Chief Frego stated Mr. Bugariu filed a law suit against Steve Kil, Chief Frego and others in Town, but the Judge dismissed the law suit. Commissioner Vale stated he feels Mr. Bugariu is scary, and he is worried what Mr. Bugariu may do some day. Chief Frego stated this has been going on with Mr. Bugariu for at least the last 10 years. Commissioner Haluska stated it has been going on for longer than 10 years.

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for May 2014. Chief Frego stated that from May 1, 2014 through May 31, 2014, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 20,768 miles and responded to 503 law incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 27 adult arrests with 43 charges being filed, and 2 juvenile arrests with 2 charges being filed. There were 242 traffic citations issued along with 57 written warnings for a total of 299 citations being issued during the month of May 2014 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of May, vehicle thefts totaled \$0.00, and all other thefts totaled \$4,245.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Department's Accreditation Process – Chief Frego advised the last of the standards have been finished, and they are available for review online. Chief Frego stated the Department is now in the process of getting proofs prior to the mock assessment. In response to Commissioner Haluska's inquiry, Chief Frego stated the 80 additional standards are still forthcoming.

Commissioner Hejl stated at last month's meeting, Chief Frego asked if the Commission would like to discuss whether to adopt all the policies at one time or not, and she was inquiring as to whether the Commission made a decision on this matter. Commissioner Long stated he was not present at that meeting. Commissioner Haluska stated it was decided to wait until after the mock assessment, then the Commission would look at adopting the policies. Chief Frego stated the Commission needs to adopt the standards in order to go forward with the Accreditation. Some discussion ensued. The Commission stated a decision would be made by next month's meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Sergeant's Test – Chief Frego stated he was finally able to make contact with Stannard and Associates and has ordered the Study Guides for the Sergeant's Test. The five (5) areas covered on the test are: Police Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Legal Issues, Community Policing, and Police Supervision. Chief Frego stated he is working on acquiring the text books for the officers to use in studying for the test, either by purchasing or renting the books. The recommendation is to provide 30-45 days or more for officers to study the books prior to the test. Chief Frego stated he would like to set a September date for the test. Chief Frego added he would like to give the officers advance notice of when the test would be given. Some discussion ensued. The Commission chose to schedule Saturday, September 27, 2014, at 1:00 P.M. as the date for the Sergeant's test. In response to Commissioner Long's query, Chief Frego stated all three (3) eligible officers have indicated a desire to test.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no matters of "New Business."

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego commented the new officer, Ronald Olson, is out on his own and doing well. Officer Olson is still learning his way around, but he knows Police Procedures very well and appears to be up to speed. Once in a while, he has some problems finding his way around but for the most part, he knows the Town.

Chief Frego stated the Police Department had a busy weekend. There was an incident on Saturday night wherein motorcycles, which were travelling at 130 mph, crashed on US 41. This incident was actually a Cedar Lake incident. There was a burglary in the Bramblewood Subdivision wherein the suspects kicked a door in to a home wherein the residents were out for the evening. The suspects were apprehended before the alarm company notified the station that there was a burglary. Some discussion ensued regarding the burglary.

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, July 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 Haluska moved for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Chapranda, the motion carried (5-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 P.M.

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

Paul Haluska, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary