

ST. JOHN POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2015

The February 2015 Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the Town of St. John was held on February 9, 2015 at 6:30 P.M., as advertised, pursuant to law. Commissioner Haluska 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, Paul Haluska, Charles Sawyer, and Kevin Vana. Also present was Chief of Police Fred Frego. Absent from this meeting were Commissioners Rose Hejl and Robert Long, as well as Town Councilman Kenneth Gembala. There was no legal representation present at tonight's meeting.

ANNUAL TOW MEETING

The Annual Tow Meeting – As this was his first year on the Commission, Chief Frego explained to Commissioner Haluska each year the tow firms who tow for the Town are invited to the Annual Tow Meeting for the purpose allowing the firms to advise the Commission of any issues, problems, complaints, etc. At tonight's meeting, there were representatives from Stan's Towing, St. John Auto, and Emerald Towing. The representative from Stan's Towing asked if anything was going to be done about the Police Department's latest change, wherein the Police Department is not releasing vehicles on weekends. Chief Frego stated they are looking into this matter which came about due to a fee that is now being charged for Tow Releases. Currently, the fee has to be paid at the Clerk's Office in Town Hall, and Town Hall is only open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Chief Frego stated he has requested the Town to approve a Petty Cash Fund for the Police Department so that the Police Department can accommodate those persons who are looking to get their cars out of impound on the weekend or after hours in the evening. The St. John Auto representative stated he was having the same problem; that being, people need their cars on Monday, and they cannot get them out of impound on the weekend. Chief Frego stated hopefully in the very, very near future, the Police Department will be able to accommodate those people when they come for their tow releases. Chief Frego also stated he has been adamantly after the proper people to get the Petty Cash Fund established so that this situation is alleviated. The representatives of the tow firms advised they had no other issues.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

January 12, 2015 Regular Meeting - Commissioner Sawyer moved to approve the minutes as written from the January 12, 2015 Regular Meeting. With a second by Commissioner Vana, the motion carried unanimously (3-0).

CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Frego read the monthly report for January 2015. Chief Frego stated that from January 1, 2015 through January 31, 2015, the members of the St. John Police Department logged 18,972 miles and responded to 425 law incidents. The investigation of these incidents led to 20 adult arrests with 39 charges being filed, and 3 juvenile arrests with 8 charges being filed. There were 257 traffic citations issued along with 56 written warnings for a total of 313 citations being issued during the month of January 2015 by the officers of the St. John Police Department. Also during the month of January, vehicle thefts totaled \$16,000.00, and all other thefts totaled \$30,226.00. The total value of recovered property was \$0.00.

CHIEF'S 2014 YEAR-END REPORT

2014 Year-End Report – Chief Frego commented that all Commissioners should have in their packets a copy of the 2014 Year-End Report, which he felt is self-explanatory. Chief Frego stated the report is a compilation of the whole year; i.e., the calls responded to, miles driven, tickets issued, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Department's Accreditation Process – Chief Frego stated he was at the Annual Indiana Chiefs of Police Association's Conference in Indianapolis approximately two (2) weeks ago, and he had occasion to speak with Mike Dickson, who is running the ILEAC process. Mr. Dickson is aware that our Department is running right on schedule, and he is looking forward to coming to our department next month for the mock assessment. Chief Frego stated ILEAC just approved 37 or 38 additional standards, which the Department will be required to fulfill next year. Chief Frego explained that a mock assessment is where the people from ILEAC come in and review our progress to determine if we are doing good or bad. It is a huge amount of paperwork and filing, and the purpose is to make sure that we are doing everything that we say we are doing. Proofs of everything will have to be shown through inspections, copies of reports, and things like that. Commissioner Haluska asked Chief Frego to let him know when Mr. Dickson would be coming to the Department.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Chief Frego stated there was nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of "New Business."

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Chief Frego stated we all have suffered through the month of January with the snow storm that came in last week and the cold weather. The Department got through it with no major catastrophes and no accidents. Chief Frego stated everybody did a good job.

ANY AND ALL

There were no matters brought up under "Any and All."

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no matters of "Public Comment."

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Regular Meeting should be held on Monday, March 9, 2015. 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. Due to another matter the Commission is dealing with, Commissioner Haluska stated the March meeting is only tentative and it may be cancelled, and meetings will be held only when necessary until the other matter is resolved.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sawyer moved for adjournment. With a second by Commissioner Vana, the motion carried (3-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

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

Charles Sawyer, Secretary

ATTEST:

Joan M. Gorcos, Recording Secretary