PORT JERVIS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 20 Hammond Street • Port Jervis • New York • 12771

845-856-5101 *Telephone* 845-858-4078

Fax

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> William J. Worden Chief of Police

John Fitzpatrick Lieutenant



pjpolice@citlink.net *E-mail*

> William VanInwegen Lieutenant

Police Committee City of Port Jervis April 6, 2015 Monthly Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Port Jervis City Police Committee was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Mr. Hendrick with the following members in attendance: Mr. Belcher, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Oney, and Chief Worden.

Committee Update:

The Chief reviewed key Part I and Part II Offense data for the Month of March.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Port Jervis Police and Rape Crisis Services of Orange County are conducting a Clothesline Project on April 15, 2015 from 10am-2pm at Veteran's Park.

Seven Engineer Consultant Firms are currently being interviewed by DPW Director Jack Farr and Chief Worden for the NYS DOT Safe Sidewalks Grant Project. A Firm will be selected for recommendation to the Common Council to review and approve.

The Chief updated the committee members pertaining the launching of the "Be Part of the Solution Campaign" designed to facilitate further community/police relations and increase citizen participation in reporting crime, suspicious activities and code violations to help improve the quality of life and public safety in the City of Port Jervis. Promotional materials, posters and window signs have been ordered.

The Chief is currently applying for grant funding under the Federal Dept. of Justice Body Armor BVP Partnership Program and the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committees Police Traffic Services Grant.

The Chief updated the committee on the following Traffic Safety Initiatives that the department will be participating in utilizing grant funding obtained through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Police Traffic Services Grant:

- April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The majority of all accidents involving property damage and personal injury are caused by distracted and aggressive driving behaviors. During the month of April, cellular telephone use (talking and texting) enforcement will be conducted. In addition, the department will participate in Operation Safe Stop School Bus Student Pedestrian Safety compliance and educational initiative.
- During the month of May, the department will begin proactive high visibility police traffic services patrols on targeted streets and times to address accident causing behaviors.
- During the month of May, the department will be participating in proactive seat belt enforcement initiatives "Buckle Up New York" with check points being scheduled.

Street Camera Project Update: A crime prevention meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2015 at Erie Track Side Manor to address crime prevention strategies for businesses. A survey of business owners will be provided for proposed camera locations in the various business districts.

A camera system has tentatively been donated from Samsung Corp. to the City of Port Jervis courtesy of a request provided by Maria and Bill Mann. The cameras are on order and should be arriving within several weeks.

The department will be participating in active shooter, lock-down and evacuation drills with the Port Jervis City School District, Town of Deerpark Police, Orange County Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police during the month of April at Port Jervis Middle School, HBE Elementary School, ASK Elementary School and Port Jervis High School.

Interviews for Juvenile Aid Detective will be conducted in early April with a potential appointment target date of April 13, 2015. The new detective will undergo 40 hours of on the job initial training with Det. Buczek.

Sr. Inv. John Richichi, supervisor of the Orange County Child Sexual Abuse Task Force has contact the Port Jervis Police Department to interview an officer/sergeant for a potential investigative position with the task force. This position is reimbursed by the county at 100% salary and fringe benefit costs and would provide an excellent opportunity for a Port Jervis Police Officer to participate in task force investigations that would directly benefit the City of Port Jervis and allow the officer to learn valuable investigative experience and expertise in this investigative field. Sergeant Christopher Sargente has been selected by the Chief of Police for submission as a potential candidate for the task force interview process. The Chief to keep the committee advised of the progress of the interviews. The position will be open during the latter portion of June, 2015.

The Chief received a request to participate in an internship and ride along program through Sussex County Community College Criminal Justice Program. Chief to investigate and report back to committee.

Committee Comments:

Mr. Oney commented on the recent awards summary for the Port Jervis Police Department and praised the officers for their excellent work. Mr. Oney discussed the concept of a Tow of the Day for area towing companies participating in tow requests for the police department. Currently, the department uses an alternating call-out list. The department will investigate the feasibility of a Tow of the Day program and advise the committee.

Mr. Hendrick advised the committee of a recent disturbance occurring at the intersection of King and Second Street.

Mr. Ritchie requested a Handicapped Parking Sign be installed on East Main Street in front of Rivertown Diner.

Mr. Cunnignham inquired about the status and activity of the neighborhood watch in West End. In addition, Mr. Cunningham inquired about the current use of body cameras and city cameras.

Public Comment: No public comment received.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted William J. Worden Chief of Police