

Police Committee

City of Port Jervis

October 7th, 2013 Monthly Meeting Minutes

Members in attendance: Mayor Potter, Members of Common Council: Mr. Hendrick, Mr. Siegel, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Oney, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Decker, Chief Worden.

Meeting called to order by Chairman McCarthy at 6:30pm.

Public Comment: No comments made by members of public.

Committee Report:

1. Radio Communications Upgrade: Goosetown Communications, the department's radio vendor is currently reviewing alternative repeater sites within the City of Port Jervis and is exploring feasibility of placing a repeater on Point Peter or within the confines of Elks Brox Park.

2. In-Car Patrol Cameras: The Department is currently viewing in-car patrol camera products and obtaining three quotes. The department plans to acquire in-car cameras for marked patrol vehicles and deploy in 2014. Funding: 2013 Serial Bond.

3. Upcoming Community Events / Discussion:

PJHS Bell Game and Team Procession: Police Escort Fall Classic 10k and 5k Road Race Halloween Parade Safe Homes of OC Clothesline Project Operation PJ Pride 1yr Celebration DEA Drug Take Back Day Crop Walk Women's Self Defense Crime Prevention Seminar High School Career Fair (11/6)

4. Street Camera Upgrades, Repairs, Improvements: The Street camera system located at the central communications desk is requiring upgrades and repairs resulting from gaining technology, telephone transmission lines and monitors requiring replacement. Work currently being conducted by department's camera vendor, P&N Alarm Co. Funding: 2013 Serial Bond: Communications Center upgrade.

5. Review of September Monthly Report and key crime comparisons to September 2012:

- Part I Offenses: 1.3% decrease
- Part II Offenses: 1/2% decrease
- Traffic Stops Increased by 39%, Traffic Tickets: 1.5% increase
- 1,070 arrests to date. Arrests increased by 4.9% 47% increase in prisoners detained in lock-up.
- Total Incidents increased by 11.4%
- Violent Part I Offenses are down
- Property related Part I offenses increased, mostly in area of larcenies.
- Controlled Substance related offenses have increased.

6. Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Summary: STEP Program, funded by GTSC, is designed to provide high visibility, proactive traffic patrols in pre-determined locations enforcing accident causing behaviors. Program Operation: April 1 - September 15, 2013. Compared to the same period in

2012, efforts resulted in a 6% reduction in Property Damage Auto Accidents, 4% decrease in Personal Injury Auto Accidents, 83% decrease in pedestrian injury auto accidents and a 8.2% overall decrease in all reported accidents.

Officers conducting STEP Patrols focused enforcement activity on East and West Main Street, Pike Street, Kingston Avenue, and Jersey Avenue. a total of 232 tickets were issued targeting speeding, aggressive and distracted driving behaviors.

7. Annual Halloween Curfew: Committee discussed the curfew to be enacted for the following dates: October 21st - November 11th following the curfew guidelines as established in previous years. Curfew to be moved to Common Council at next regularly scheduled meeting for discussion.

8. Department Training Activities currently being planned and implemented during the Fall include Fall Firearms training and Use of Force Training Reality Based Scenario Training for Patrol Officers, and completion of basic emergency vehicle operators course.

9. Peace Officer Training- ACO. The OC Police Chief's Academy is planning to sponsor a basic NYS approved Peace Officer with Firearms Training Program at the Academy. No date has been established.

10. Clerk/Dispatcher Update: Most shifts between the hours of 7am-11pm are being filled with some exception. The employees are currently conducting on the job basic training and policy training under the guidance of the shift sergeants. Each employee will be required to complete basic training, E-Justice Certification and other training as required. Employees having access to the State E-Justice Program must be fingerprinted prior to approval. Fingerprinting of employees will occur after the new year as current budgetary resources are insufficient.

11. Fingerprinting of Employees: The department utilizes L1 Identity Solutions to currently fingerprint all employees and applicants at a cost of approximately \$86.00 each. Funding has been requested to fingerprint clerk/dispatcher employees in the 2014 Chief's Proposed Budget. The department is further researching the feasibility of purchasing software from the State that will enable the department to fingerprint city employees at no cost.

12. Police Detective Vacancy: Interviews are currently being planned during the month of October in preparation for replacing the currently vacant police detective position. After interviews are completed, a recommendation for promotion will be made by the department's promotional committee to the Common Council during the second Common Council Meeting in October.

13. Replacement of Detective Vehicles: The department deploys unmarked vehicles to support investigative and command staff functions. Replacement of these unmarked vehicles is not included in the five year vehicle replacement plan for marked patrol vehicles and the department has historically leased detective vehicles and purchased them utilizing the capital note. A 2010 Impala is being planned for buy-out in FY 2014 with the addition of a new leased vehicle to begin the replacement process- to be discussed further during budget meetings.

14. Third Quarter Budget Memo: The committee discussed a memo distributed pertaining to the City's Third Quarter Financial status and loss of court revenues.

15. Major Repairs to dodge patrol vehicles and speed monitor being conducted.

Old Business / Committee Discussions

A. Reservoir Avenue Stop Sign Request: A request for a four way stop intersection at the corner of Reservoir Avenue and Hudson Street was reviewed. Based upon speed study analysis and traffic accident data, a four way stop is not warranted at this time.

B. Stoll Street: The speed analysis unit was deployed to Stoll Street to analyze traffic data. The unit experienced technical difficulties and is being sent out for repairs. Study to be conducted at future date.

C. Tractor Trailer Traffic on Bennett Street (Tri-States). Recommendation to relocate "Actual Bridge Height" to prevent tractor trailers from turning right on North Maple Avenue and adjoining side streets.

Committee Comments

Mr. Hendrick expressed concerns for local homeless individuals as the weather becomes colder and reported of a traffic condition on Rail Road Circle where motorists are using this section of roadway and the adjoining railroad right of way as a roadway.

Mayor Potter: Reported that unruly persons are congregating at Mother's Park located on Hammond Street during the evening hours and stealing items from residents located in the neighborhood.

Mr. Ritchie: Reported on 90 minute parking problems on Pike Street and motorists using the DB Mart Parking lot located at the intersection of Pike and Main Streets to avoid the traffic light between the hours of 7am-8am.

Mr. Oney requested the "Do Not Block Intersection" line painting located at Ulster Pl and East Main Street be enhanced and further discussed Stoll Street traffic complaints.

Mr Siegel:

- Requestion the relocation of a "Children At Play" Sign located on Front Street near Penn Ave be to lower Front Street near Owen Street facing East.
- Requested the removal "Limited Parking Sign" installed on Kingston Avenue in front of 6 Kingston Avenue as the residence is no longer serving as a cub scout den meeting location.
- Reported a complaint he received about taxi cabs operating in the city that are not properly certified to transport persons into other states.
- Reported on a recent problem he encountered with a clerk/dispatcher when he telephoned a complaint regarding unruly groups of youths blocking the streets near Church Street and Penn Avenue and the dispatcher asking too much information.

Meeting Adjourned at 743pm

Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Worden

Chief of Police