

Police Committee
City of Port Jervis
2 December 2013
Monthly Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Police Committee was called to order at 1830 hrs with Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Hendrick, Mr. Decker, and Mr. Ritchie in attendance.

Cruising Port Jervis:

The committee addressed complaints and proactive feedback pertaining to Cruising Port Jervis which is generally held on the first Tuesday of the month from 5pm-9pm on Front Street throughout the months of April - October. Eleven members of the public were present at the meeting with several members providing input regarding traffic safety, event coordination and parking. All members in attendance agreed that the event was a positive for the City of Port Jervis. Public comment and committee comments pertaining to the event transpired from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. In sum, the following conditions were identified as being potentially problematic:

1. Parking spaces being taken by cruise participants several hours before the event.
2. Blocking of crosswalks, handicapped parking and fire hydrants.
3. Double Parking in roadway.
4. Pedestrians crossing and walking in street outside of

crosswalks impeding traffic.

5. Traffic congestion

6. Difficulty of local delivery trucks to access businesses and loss of customers during times of 5pm-6pm due to lack of parking.

7. Traffic congestion poses potential problems with emergency response vehicles.

The following potential solutions were discussed:

1. Hold event on Sunday evenings due to less traffic and business closings. *This solution presented a schedule conflict with event organizers.*

2. Continue to hold event on Tuesday evenings.

3. Event coordinators to develop a parking plan with the City that will utilize Front Street, the Mini-Mall Lot, Sussex Street, Ball Street and Fowler Street to accommodate the growing number of participants.

4. Event coordinators to provide group of volunteers to assist with parking signage and monitoring parking during event.

5. One way traffic to be instituted on Front Street and Ball Street (East/West) with proper signage to reduce congestion.

6. Participants will be encouraged to use sidewalks and crosswalks.

7. A police presence will be assigned to the event to monitor traffic and pedestrian safety and act as required.

8. Event participants will be informed of parking complaints and not to show up for event closer to event starting time.

9. Parking signage will be placed in front of a local business to facilitate UPS and Federal Express pick-ups from 5pm-6pm.

10. Potential assistance with Port Jervis Fire Police.

The matter will be referred to the in-coming Common Council for potential approval in February 2014 pending further review by the Police Dept., Fire Department, and Department of Public Works.

General Business/Updates:

In Car Cameras: In Car Cameras for all patrol cars is currently being planned for implementation in 2014. The department is currently reviewing products and receiving price quotes.

1. **Radio Communications Project:** The department has been conducting radio tests with Goosetown Communications and is awaiting a proposal to install radio receivers in select locations in the City to improve portable radio communications. The department's radio repeater system located has been moved from the Tri-State section too City Hall for testing purposes. Project implementation: Spring 2014.

2. **Operation Impact Tools Initiative** grant proposal was submitted by the Chief of Police for funding to enhance investigations into major crimes, burglaries, narcotics offenses, warrants, provide crime prevention activities, joint patrols with the OCSO, and high visibility community policing patrols.

3. The department has officially signed up for the Nixle Public Alert System for public access to emergency alerts. Program to

begin in January 2014.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted

William J. Worden
Chief of Police