

Police Committee
City of Port Jervis
4 November 2013
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1835 hrs with Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Oney, Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Siegel in attendance.

Public Comment:

Ms. Niki Jones, resident of 3rd Ward and Front Street business owner addressed the committee pertaining to concerns with Cruising Port Jervis located on Front Street. Ms. Jones stated that the local cruise night event has become too large and has "out grown" the Front Street business district and asked the committee to address parking concerns of other business owners, blocking handicapped spaces, fire hydrants and crosswalks, and restricting access to local delivery persons. At times, many participants arrive during the early afternoon and set up lawn chairs and take up parking spaces, and the traffic congestion is a cause of concern. Ms. Jones requested a meeting with all parties involved with the Cruise Night and affected business owners to discuss the issues. After a discussion with committee members, The Chief of Police informed the committee that he would research the matter and invite participants to the December Police Committee Meeting to analyze the problem.

Report of Chief of Police William Worden

Summary of recently DEA Drug Take Back Program conducted in City of Port Jervis.
Discussion of upcoming Veterans Day Parade Activities and parade logistics.
The committee was advised of an upcoming Crime Prevention Seminar being conducted with the Port Jervis Neighborhood watch, Safe Homes of Orange County, Orange County Rape Crisis Services and Han Ho Martial Arts.
Crossing Guards have recently been issued portable radios and completed basic radio training to improve communications and crossing guard safety. The radios were donated by Goosetown Communications.

The Chief advised the committee of a recent problem encountered with the Metro North Railroad pertaining to actual bridge height signs located on East Main Street at the Railroad underpass.

The committee discussed the extent of homelessness in the area and recent outreach efforts.

The Chief informed the committee that the Department is currently researching the utilization of the Nixle Public Alert System for the Police Department.

The Chief informed the committee of current budgetary problems faced by the department with repairs to the patrol fleet, prisoner services, narcotics investigations expenses, overtime and department cell phone plan.

The Chief is currently drafting a grant proposal to the NYS Dept of Criminal Justice Services for funding under the 2014 Impact Tools Initiative.

The Chief advised the committee that the department acquired 2003 Nissan motor vehicle resulting from a narcotics related seizure of property in 2012 and requested to being the process of selling the vehicle at public bid. Matter to be referred to Corporation Counsel.

A discussion was held pertaining to accrued leave time that was not taken by the Chief and Police Lieutenants during 2013 be carried over to 2014 for usage. Item to be forwarded to Common Council for review.

Committee Comments:

Mr. Ritchie discussed the improved parking situation on Pike Street and informed the committee of a problem with motorists avoiding the traffic control device located at the intersection of Pike and Main Streets during the morning commute.

No Further Comments.

Meeting adjourned at 1930 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

William J. Worden
Chief of Police