

## **Police Committee**

### **City of Port Jervis, New York**

#### **September 9, 2015 Monthly Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 1835 hrs by Chairman Mr. Hendrick with the following in attendance: Mr. Oney, Mr. Belcher, Mr. Ritchie, ACO Murray, and Chief Worden.

#### **Committee Report:**

Meeting with Humane Society of Port Jervis/Deerpark:

Board of Directors Pres. Dee Broton, Shelter Director Susan Beecher and Board Secretary Susan Weber met with the committee to discuss working protocols and projects related to animal control between the Society and the City. In addition, members discussed the annual contract between the city and the society and the merits of continuing the current contract fee per animal or reverting back to the historic yearly contract fee for services.

#### **Key Points:**

- Society is working with local resident Jill Wojtostic regarding the feral cat population in the City of Port Jervis. Ms. Wotosic has been using community donations to trap feral cats for spay or neuter and release back to their environments. The cost is approximately \$60.00 per cat and 48 cats have been subjected to the TNR Program in the City of Port Jervis to date. ACO Murray will meet with Ms. Beecher to inquire how Animal Control can assist with the program.
- Discussion pertaining Animals brought to shelter by owners for voluntary surrender.
- Discussed working together to address stray animals brought to shelter by private citizens. Ms Beecher advised the City that Animal Control Officers typically meet the finders at the Shelter to document the stray animal for potential owner location. The City discussed expressed the difficulty with ascertaining where the animal was found. Society Staff and Animal Control Officer will address these incidents as they occur and work together to ascertain the jurisdiction where the stray was located to take appropriate action.
- Residents who find animals and contact the shelter will be directed to call the animal control department in the jurisdiction found for proper handling.
- Victims of Domestic Violence who have pets will be provided with care and shelter by the Society in emergency situations to help domestic violence victims find emergency and safe housing arrangements without worry of their pets welfare. This is a service provided to the community by the shelter.
- Discussed dog licensing procedures and enforcement.
- ACO and Shelter Director to communicate more frequently on animal control and animal welfare issues and projects.

#### **Chief's Report:**

Too Good for Drugs Program instruction for PJMS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students provided by PO Nicole McGowan and ADAC of Orange County began during the month of September.

All Crossing Guards have received their beginning of the school year basic in-service training.

The department is currently analyzing expenses and preparing the 2016 budget.

Training Update: The department is finalizing the 2015 training cycle with the following fall training activities: 4 hour firearms training, qualifications and Use of Force review, General In-Service, Taser Recertification and on-line training.

Employee Evaluations for all sworn and civilian employees are continuing.

A review of the newly created Orange County District Attorney's Office Narcotics Eviction Program was provided.

An emergency Evacuation Training Drill involving the PJP, Deerpark Police, Port Jervis Fire, EMS, and the office of Emergency Management is scheduled for October 2, 2015 at the Port Jervis Middle School.

Officer Michael Decker and Sgt Ray Cirelli of the Deerpark PD are currently working the Orange County District Attorney's Office and the New York State Dept of Environmental Conservation to provide a Hunter Safety Course and basic gun safety as a community outreach program.

The Chief provided a review of street crime activity including robbery and assaults occurring and their relation to narcotics and potential gang activity.

The Chief reviewed two letter of commendation issued to officers for excellent police duty and life saving.

The Department will be recruiting potential civil service examination candidates at the Empowering Port Jervis/Project Easter Seals Job fair on September 29, 2015.

Operation PJ Pride/Catholic Charities awarded \$125,000 for five years under the Federal Drug Free Communities Grant.

The Chief reviewed a request from a homeowner on Hudson Street (former Mountain House) for an evaluation of the "No Parking" signs located on the west side of the street adjacent to the face of Point Peter for potential creation of one or two parking spaces. The Chief is currently reviewing the request with DPW for potential sign relocation.

Town of Deerpark 9-11 Memorial Service is schedule for 8:30am on September 11<sup>th</sup>. PJP and Deerpark PD providing a joint agency color guard presence.

The following School Safety Initiatives were reviewed:

- Back to School Driving and Pedestrian Safety
- Daily School Checks
- Weekly School Visits and Outreach to Students and Staff (Deerpark/Port Jervis PD)
- High Visibility school zone patrols

Officer Sean Colley scheduled to begin official field training program on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Program is scheduled for four weeks due to prior police experience.

Executive Session: The committee entered into executive session for the purpose of discussing the hiring of a patrol officer. The committee exited executive session and will refer the hiring to the Common Council on September 14, 2015.

A 2010 Dodge Charger Patrol Vehicle (Car 12) was struck and damaged by a motorist backing from a parking space at 100 Pike Street while an officer was investigating a call for service on September 3, 2015. No Injuries reported. Patrol car sustained damage and will be repaired.

Chief Worden was selected by Orange County Mental Health to participate in a panel discussion pertaining to the Sustainability of Forensic Connections Programs in communities on September 18, 2015 at the Council of State Governments Justice Center in Manhattan during their sustainability conference workshop.

The Chief reported that the City Compliance training On-Line Training Options for all department for basic courses such as Workplace Violence, Sexual Harassment, Blood Borne Pathogens and Diversity are available through localgovu.com for the cost of \$7.00 per course for all city employees. This on-line training is discounted by the City's insurance carrier, Traveler's Insurance and was formerly provided free of charge through Trident Insurance. The department will be requesting budgeted resources for on-line training in 2016.

A Heroin and Opioid Forum is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

**Public Comments:** No public comment received.

**Committee Comments:**

Mr. Ritchie: Inquired about potential disturbances occurring at or around 9 Jones Street

Mr. Belcher: Discussed disturbances on Ferguson Avenue and Mary Street

Mr. Oney inquired about the department arsenal and if there is a sufficient supply of weapons and body armor to ensure officers have the proper emergency equipment available during their shifts.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted

*William J. Worden*

Chief of Police