

Police Committee
City of Port Jervis, New York
January 2020 Meeting Minutes

23 January 2020

The January 23, 2020 meeting of the police committee was called to order at 6:05pm with the following members in attendance: Mr. Foster, Ms. Mann, Ms. Randazzo, Ms. Trovei, and Chief Worden.

General Report:

Sussex County Community College criminal justice student Paige Gunderman has requested to complete an internship program with the department. Insurance Waiver and general waiver are being completed. Committee moved request to Common Council for approval.

Employee annual evaluations are being conducted for dispatchers, school officers and command level officers.

2019 Feral Cat Program Report: 140 cats were capture, spayed/neutered. 82 cats were spayed/neutered at a low cost to residents during the City's August clinic, and over 70 kittens were adopted by Jill's Ferals.

The 2020 Capital Note request was reviewed by the committee. The TruNark Chemical Field Test Narcotics Analyzer was removed from the request after the police department was able to successfully procure a "loaner" unit from the Orange County District Attorney's Office to be housed at the police department and be made available regionally to other law enforcement agencies.

Personnel are currently participating in a two-hour training program to become certified with the Tru-Nark technology to begin field tested narcotics.

The 2020 Serial Bond Request by the police department was reviewed. Each item was discussed at length and prioritized for future capital planning. The police department expansion into the department of motor vehicles space, rehabilitating and updating the current police department facility and constructing a training facility at the range are priorities for potential capital projects.

A review was conducted regarding the temporary assignment of school crossing guards for the morning and afternoon Middle School walkers at the intersection of Pike and Main Street and Kingston and Main Streets. The additional crossing guards were deployed at these locations during sidewalk, roadway and traffic light infrastructure construction from the start of school to the Christmas break. The additional deployments were highly successful and greatly assisted Middle School aged walkers safely navigate the school route during this construction time frame. The Chief will further review the feasibility and costs related to establishing a permanent crossing guard post for the morning and afternoon Middle School walkers at the intersection of Kingston Avenue and Main Street. The presence of this crossing guard at this location greatly facilitated safer crossings and reduced incidents of disturbances at this location specifically after school was out. A special thank you for our crossing guards for their dedication to ensure these temporary posts were covered during the construction season to improve student safety.

Upcoming retirements of three sworn members were discussed and the potential impact on scheduling and overtime. A buy out was discussed at length to determine the pro's and con's of offering a financial incentive to structure these retirements. No decision was made regarding the buyout at this time and the matter will further be discussed at finance committee.

The Port Jervis Civil Service Exam results have been received by Civil Service. According to Ms. Kent, the list is highly diverse, and a large number of candidates have passed the examination. The list is currently being processed and a future police physical fitness examination will be scheduled during the month of March.

An update was provided pertaining to the impacts currently being experienced with criminal justice reforms and the District Attorney's Early Case Assessment Bureau.

The committee was updated pertaining to the progress of a labor-management team currently working together within the department to create an updated sick time memorandum of agreement for the PBA/City Collective Bargaining Agreement. Once the language is finalized by the Chief of Police and the PBA, the policy will be forwarded to the council for discussion and potential approval.

The Chief of Police is working to create a formal disciplinary policy to be incorporated into the policy and procedure manual of the department.

Members of the committee were provided with a copy of an updated Department Brochure designed to provide citizens an easy reference form that highlights the department, its mission, and various public safety and prevention programs.

The Chief discussed the importance of reinstating the second full time police lieutenant's position that was cut during budget cuts in 2015. The Chief will be developing a replacement plan for the position and will present to the committee later in 2020.

The Chief provided members of the committee with a power point presentation covering the 2019 year in review and 2020 goals.

No Public comment was received.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Worden

Chief of Police