

**Police Committee**

**City of Port Jervis**

**March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 608pm.

Members present Mr. Foster, Ms. Mann, Ms. Trovei, Ms. Campbell, Mr. Oney, Chief Worden.

**Monthly Crime Report Review:**

The Chief of Police reviewed Part I and Part II crime statistics, accidents, call volumes and other key statistics for the month of February 2021. Part I crimes have increased by 10.5% since February 2020 and Part II Offenses have risen by 5.9%.

The Chief further discussed the progress of the department's efforts to transform crime reporting from the UCR to the National Incident Based Reporting System. The Department is now participating in both reporting platforms for the next six to eight months until the state allows for a full transition into the NIBR reporting system which collects more extensive statistical information regarding reported crime. Due to hierarchy limitations of the UCR reporting, it is anticipated that the department will experience increased offense data due to the nature of NIBR reporting.

**Major Narcotics Trafficker Arrest:**

A briefing was provided to the committee pertaining to the arrest of Richard McInturff, age 30, of Port Jervis, charged with operating a major narcotic trafficking ring in the City of Port Jervis. Over ten thousand bags of heroin were seized during two multi-agency operations that occurred on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Training Report:**

The following training activities are being planned or presently occurring within the department:

- Mental Health Training with Orange County Mental Health, the Crisis Call Center and Independent Living to enhance crisis call taking and interagency response to mental health calls.
- Ride-along training with a peer mental health specialist to support mental health peer response pilot program.
- Response to Suicidal Subjects- Lexipol Webinar Training being scheduled for all officers.
- Development of a training program to deploy a less lethal bean bag projectile munition for supervisors and firearms instructors who are on patrol.
- Range officers will be assisting academy firearms instructors present the 80-hour basic firearms training program for academy recruits at the Port Jervis range facility.
- Duty to Intercede Training being scheduled.
- Compliance Training- workplace violence, sexual harassment and bloodborne pathogens.
- 4-hour In-service training to include domestic violence updates, use of force and de-escalation training to be presented in April.

### **US DOJ-NYS DCJS Safe Policing for Safe Communities Certification**

Port Jervis Police Department received certification from the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services and the US Dept of Justice that the department meets the requirements of Presidential Executive Order 13929 “Safe Policing for Communities” certifying the department’s use of force policies adhere to all applicable Federal, State, and local laws making the City of Port Jervis eligible to receive Federal funding.

### **Autism Awareness Month April 2021**

Department officers and staff are receiving training on Autism Awareness and officers will be wearing a department autism awareness badge pin to reinforce the importance of community awareness. Social Media postings will be distributed during the month to promote awareness. Pins were purchased through the generous donation of Mr. Moses Serrano.

## **Traffic Safety Grants**

Grant applications are being prepared for the 2021-2022 Governors Traffic Safety Committee Police Traffic Services Grant, Buckle Up New York and Child Passenger Safety Grant. Applications for funding are due on May 1, 2021.

## **City Hall Emergency Power Generator**

The committee discussed the need to plan for the replacement of the aging power generator located in City hall. The existing generator was installed around 1974 when the municipal building was constructed. The aging generator only provides enough emergency electricity to power approximately 1/3 of the electrical infrastructure in City Hall.

The Chief discussed information provided by CDA Director Valerie Maginsky pertaining to the potential implementation of a “Carbon Positive” project for the City of Port Jervis to reduce operating costs and the carbon footprint of the City.

Mr. Jeremy Shannon, NYC Director of Sustainable Design and Resiliency, has been working with the CDA regarding this proposal and recommended exploring a generator that operates on 100% biofuel with a #2 fuel oil back-up for future sustainability. Funding sources to develop a request for proposals (RFP) for an electrical engineering study of the municipal building and the present and future power needs will be required.

## **Taxi Cap Denial- Appeal- Mr. Joseph Durbin**

Mr. Durbin, of Cuddebackville, NY, addressed the committee and requested an appeal for a taxi license application denial because of a felony conviction. Mr. Durbin explained to the committee the circumstances of his conviction and the steps that he has taken to rehabilitate. Mr. Durbin possesses a valid class E and is seeking to drive taxi for employment to support his family. The committee will investigate the matter further and make a recommendation to the common council.

## **Capital Note:**

The 2021 capital note allocates \$22,000 for body cameras and \$2,000 for computer hardware. The remaining costs for storage and auto activation technology will be financed through a combination of regular budgeted resources, asset forfeiture and a potential funding request through DA Hoovler.

Awaiting availability and cost of camera auto activation technology prior to purchasing the product.

**Police Department Expansion Update:**

The committee received an update on the progress of the police department expansion project, toured the current police facility and new addition and discussed future costs of infrastructure and renovations to complete the project.

An updated funding request for the proposed 2021 serial bond will be submitted to finance for review.

**ABLE Program – Georgetown University**

The department is seeking two letters of support from community members endorsing the department to participate in the Active Bystandership Training.

**Comments:**

Mr. Oney discussed potential ATVs operating on the watershed trails as the weather warms. Police UTV patrols will be deployed within coming weeks to provide a proactive presence.

No Public Comment.

Meeting adjourned 715pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*William J. Worden*

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Chief of Police