

**Police Commission Meeting
February 10, 2014**

Present: Chairman Larry Jensen, Commissioner Sean Sargeant, Dr. Luther Brown

Not Present: Vice Chairman Tom Calcagni, Commissioner Michelle Fairbrother

Others present: Captain Scott Tucker, Lt. Kevin Geno

Chairman Larry Jensen calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Motion made by Commissioner Sargent and seconded by Commissioner Brown to accept the minutes of January 13, 2014 and motion passed.

Chief Baker congratulates Brad GoodHale who is present, as the new crime analyst beginning Sunday, February 15. Chief Baker indicates that he will bring the new full time certified officer in next month along with Brad for an official ceremony.

Communication from the Union

Nothing

Sergeant's Report

Sgt. Sheldon, who is the head of the unit, updates the board on the Negotiation Crisis Unit. There are seven people on the team with 4 having completed the 40 hour class for negotiators with the others trying to get into it. He indicates that the team intervenes when people are in crisis. They are doing a lot work including policy development. With training from the state police, they are progressing in the right way. They are now working on the tactical analyst aspect to filter information from, along with the crisis counselor from Rutland Mental Health to the negotiating detective. Trainings are being set up on dealing with people in crisis and getting them the help that they need. The focus is not only to help them now, but for the future and forever.

Budget

Captain Tucker indicates the department is on track at 32 weeks, which brings them to 61% of the budget, overall, they have spent 55.45% of the budget. Chief Baker indicates that they have 37 of 40 positions filled. There is one position open in dispatch. Managing the budget has worked with unexpected spending due to the vacancy savings. The intention of the department is to fill all 40 positions and work hard to manage the budget in the years to come.

Chief's report

Chief Baker indicates that the department had been working diligently on the 2 ½ week period of armed robberies in the month of January. Due to great policing, the mapping program and community involvement, the cases were resolved by the whole team inside the police department.

The Honor Guard has been re-established as part of one goal to the strategic plan to bring pride back to the Rutland Police Department.

Tapestry held their annual community connection fair on 1/29/13 and Officer Green, Records Clerk Nora Moore and Executive Assistant Mary-Kaye Zambon were all involved.

Officer Jen Czachor and Canine King Jaguar will attend canine drug detection school on 1/17/13 for 6 weeks and then they will enroll in patrol school. There are 2 canines in the department including Officer Chuck Whitehead who came to the department from the sheriff's department.

Discussions held as to the “shelf” life of a canine. Sgt. Prouty is overseeing the canines and Chief Baker indicates he is proud of Sgt. Prouty, as he will be inducted into the hall of fame at the VT Police Academy at the May graduation class.

Chief Baker indicates that the commission has been updated on the leadership summit that has been extended from 2 days for the past 2 years to 3 days and goes over the agenda.

Mapping

Chief Baker indicates calendar years 2012 and 2013 to be reviewed. Sgt. Sly gets David Harrington, VT Center for Justice Research, on the phone via net meeting to review the mapping stats. Repeat incidents for 1/25/14 to 2/8/14 of the 25 repeat addresses of 3 or more calls are reported to this list.

Chief Baker explains the record management system. He explains that there are certain addresses in the city that you don’t see any more, as the numbers are going down. This mapping system has been in place for a little over 7 months as it began in 2013. Citizen disputes are down 31%, family disturbances are up 12%, animal problems are up 15%, juvenile problems are up 2%, disorderly conducts are down 7%, noise disturbance up 26%. There is a big decrease in larceny from buildings and vandalisms of a motor vehicle are up 53%.

Next chart shows top 20 calls for service. The goal for 2014 is how to keep your property safe. Discussions held. The team is working on high risk students at the schools and keeping a good relationship with the schools and drill down what is going on inside the home.

Sgt. Prouty comments on residents not wanting to call the police as they claim the police don’t do anything and now the department is working with non-traditional partners to work towards resolutions. In the past, the police were not geared to solve the problems, but now have the tools readily available and have the mental health relationship. It is an important piece to look at the numbers from last year to this year with the project vision.

Chief Baker indicates that they are in the early stages of a 1½ day drug market intervention training with a criminal bureau justice grant for best practice at the end of March. Now that we know in Rutland that it is less about the sources of the supply, but the infrastructure to deal with it. Next strategy to deploy is to undermine that infrastructure that is in place and have a training with the US Attorney’s Office as co-host. Among the invitees will be project vision, other law enforcement agencies, US Attorneys, State’s Attorneys, VSP, with 3 trainers for the social services part and the law enforcement part. Chief Baker indicates he is very pleased with what Cpt. Tucker is doing with his leadership for this program.

Chief Baker reports the Leadership Team Planning sessions with Facilitator Joan Gamble to be able to support project vision, have been completed with the strategic planning on the command staff inside the police department. A clear mission and vision has been developed inside The Rutland City Police Department and is dedicated to protecting and serving our citizens through professionalism, courtesy, compassion and community partnerships.

The new areas of focus are: to move from a closed to an open culture; aiming toward best in class; IT excellence; succession planning for all levels of leadership; social media outreach and conversations; and project vision collaboration. Chief Baker goes over the four stages of a strong team and over the goals for the new structure.

The next step is for Joan Gamble to give a presentation at the leadership summit to absorb

feedback from leadership staff; the review of policies to meet the language change; review of job classifications; role changes to begin March 1. Commissioner Sargent makes a motion to approve the new structure as presented and seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed.

Public Input

Cam Johnston, who is running for a seat on the Board of Aldermen wants to make sure that if anyone has any input for the meeting set at the Fox Room at 7:00 on the 12th, to get a hold of him at boa@yahoo.com. Robert Tepper wants to know why the owners and property managers of the addresses of the properties involved can't be named outright and to deter the drug dealers from coming to town.

Commissioner Sargent indicates he is very impressed with Sgt. Prouty's shift with reference to the marijuana bust on East St.

It was addressed that there are safety concerns exiting the high school parking lot on Stratton Rd and Chief Baker will look into this and have Officer Green get involved.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Sargent to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

Submitted by:

Nancy Manning

Cc: Rutland Police Commission
Chief James Baker
Captain Scott Tucker
Lt. Kevin E. Geno
Mayor Chris Louras
City Clerk Henry Heck
Board of Aldermen
Union President Lynn Gallipo