

Rutland City Police Commission
March 17, 2014

Present: Chairman Larry Jensen, Vice Chairman Tom Calcagni, Commissioners Michelle Brother, Sean Sargeant, Dr. Luther Brown

Also present: Captain Scott Tucker, Lt. Kevin Geno

Chairman Jensen calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm and the minutes are approved as presented as there are no changes or additions.

Chief Baker introduces Sam Capogrossi, Special Officer and Coordinator for the Early Intervention Program out of the State's Attorney's Office and Brad GoodHale who started one month ago as the Crime Analyst and a formal introduction will be held at the April meeting along with Cpl. Tim Tuttle.

Public Comment

Commissioner Sargeant indicates that he had received a call from Bob Tepper with regards to an ordinance to name property owners and property managers when an arrest of drugs is made in the City of Rutland. Chief Baker responds and indicates that he has spoken to Mr. Tepper and indicates the ordinance is not the focus of how they are doing drug offenses now and the outcome that Mr. Tepper hopes it would bring is not the way the police department is progressing towards drug cases. Discussions held.

Chairman Jensen compliments Chief Baker on the great job of his presentation to the US Senate Judiciary Committee's field hearing today on Community Solutions to Breaking the Cycle of Heroin and Opioid Addiction and indicates that it was well received.

Communication from the Union

None

Sergeant's Report

In lieu of the Sergeant's report today, Chief Baker indicates the board will take a tour of the upstairs and to look at the structure, to include a Victim Advocate, Crisis worker from Rutland Mental Health, School Resource Officer, Captain Tucker, Sam Capogrossi, Assistant AG and Crime Analyst Brad GoodHale, 2 Social Workers.

Budget

Chief Baker has taken over managing the budget and indicates they are at 62.6% and should have spent 70% of the budget, but are still in the ballpark. Lines that are overspent are primarily in the Technology and Machinery/equipment lines. The recruiting budget is over and the repair of the building is well over due to having to lay cable for access to the internet for the space upstairs. The savings is in the vacancy savings. The bids are out for the used vehicles and are waiting for them to come back. Sgt. Sly reports on the vehicle that was involved in the crash on Main St. A settlement has not been reached, but he indicates that he will keep the chair up to date on the investigation of to what is found. Discussions held as to the asset forfeiture fund along with the guiding principles and it being regulated by federal standards. The discussions leaned toward leadership development and equipment purposes.

Chief's Report

Staffing level is at 37 and almost 38 with Animal Control Officer Tim Jones. Chief Baker indicates that he has depleted everyone on their list and will have to refocus and go back out and recruit. There is one person left on the Corporals list and will need to retest for Corporal. There is one vacancy in dispatch when Laurie Walters moved to Evidence Clerk and possibly looking at a recertified person for that position. Chairman Jensen indicates that he has spent time with Evidence Clerk Laurie Walters and sees the excitement from her as to what she is doing up there.

Chief Baker distributes the diagrams that have been created with the help of Joan Gamble on the structure of the police department starting at the top with Chief Baker to the breakdown the titles and their duties and responsibilities and then explains the changes inside the department. He then goes over the table of organization with explanations of sub committees and coordination of all. They have entered into a conversation with DCF to have a DCF worker housed in the building on a part time basis. Eventual further reorganization to be done cutting down on calls for service to prepare an agile team to be dedicated to working on cases with the intel that we receive.

There is a Community meeting scheduled on March 27, 2014 at 6:00 at the United Methodist Church to show the community a mapping demonstration.

There will be a drug market intervention training for the use of best practice on implementing strategies with the Police Chief from High Point, North Carolina coming and meeting with over 80 people.

Chief Baker indicates that the leadership summary was well received and indicates that Prudence Pease presented an incredible emotional and powerful presentation on the Bridges of Poverty and a summary observation form will be written up for handout.

Motion made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Calcagni to go into executive session at 6:38. Motion passed.

Executive Session

The executive session began, present are all police commission members, Chief Baker, Captain Tucker and Lt. Geno to discuss matters that if disclosed publicly at this time, could place the City, the Department or an employee of the department at risk. Those matters include contract negotiations, pending litigations, criminal activity, budget issues and sensitive personnel issues.

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