

Rutland Police Commission

November 10, 2014

Present: Vice Chairman Tom Calcagni, Commissioners Sean Sargeant, Michelle Fairbrother, Dr. Luther Brown

Others Present: Chief Baker, Commanders Geno and Covell

Not present: Chairman Larry Jensen

Vice Chairman Tom Calcagni calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Motion made by Commissioner Sargeant to accept and approve the minutes of October and seconded by Commissioner Fairbrother. Motion passed.

Public comments

Cam Johnston would like to thank the chief for his service as he has done an excellent job. Mr. Johnston inquires how to become the police commission's selection for the public spot to be on the selection board for the next appointment of Chief for the Rutland City Police and would like to report his interest. Discussions held. Suggestion was made to write a letter of interest and submit it to Vice Chairman Calcagni.

Chief's Report

Chief Baker makes it a matter of public record and provides his letter of resignation dated November 10, 2014, effective January 10, 2015 and reads it into the record. He will provide a transition letter to the board by January 30, 2015 for future leadership of the Rutland City Police Department. Commissioner Sargeant makes a motion to accept the resignation and seconded by Commissioner Fairbrother. Motion passed.

Communication from the Union

Nothing at this time

Sergeant's Report

No sergeant's report done for this evening

Commissioner Sargeant indicates, as per discussed at the last meeting, they are following the same search process in the formation of a search committee for the Chief of Police position. A letter from the Vice Chairman will be sent to the Mayor, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, Chairman of the Rutland Police Commission, President of the Board of Aldermen and Commander Geno. Discussions held. Motion made by Commissioner Fairbrother to accept the letter with the correction of the date to January 10, 2015 and have the Vice Chairman sign it to be brought to the Clerk's office, to be distributed, seconded and motion passed.

Budget

Chief Baker indicates that they are on target with the budget. He reports that the expenditures are running on pace for 1/3 of the expenditures being spent. The overtime line is up by 5% by the nature of the current personnel issued. Officer Jen Czachor is still at the academy with Canine Jaguar. There are a couple of people out sick, one having had outpatient surgery. Monies are encumbered for the uniform cleaning, which shows 108% over the budget. Chief Baker will try to get below the Mayor's target number for the FY016 budget.

Personnel

Chief Baker indicates that they are meeting two candidates tomorrow and a third on Thursday, making the sworn personnel to 39 out of 40. Dispatch is full at six. Graduation from the VT Police Academy is November 21 for Officer Harvey and Czachor/Canine Jaguar. Chief Baker has been asked to be the keynote speaker. Discussion and explanation given by Chief Baker as to the question presented as to the difference of pre-cert and the full time academy. Officer Dumas has started with the SIU starting today. Cpl. Mosher will go to the BCI. Sgt. Prouty is assigned temporarily to Project Vision and is working with Analyst GoodHale. Professor Kennedy had spent a good amount of time with them. Chief Baker indicates that Professor Kennedy would like to use what is happening in this Department in a national dialogue for the use of a DMI model.

Brad GoodHale had a command post set up during the Halloween parade with a preplanned public safety plan. There were only 2 calls during the parade.

Chief Baker continues to do walk and talks in the neighborhoods and hopes to get one more in before he leaves. Mayor Louras has requested that the City Police put out a general order for information about seatbelt requirements.

The Union contract has been finalized. Chief Baker indicates that they have advertised the Sergeant's test as Cpl. Delpha's name is the only name on the list and it expires February 26, 2015 and another list will be compiled.

The Policeman's Ball Holiday Dinner is scheduled for 12/5 at 6:00pm at the Italian Club. A time of 10:00am is tentatively set on 12/10/14 for the first annual promotions and awards ceremony at the Paramount. The ceremony will acknowledge promotions/new hires, years of service pins, citizen recognitions, vision visionary awards and there will be one individual chosen to be recognized for their support of project vision.

Executive Assistant Mary-Kaye Zambon has scheduled a luncheon for Chief Baker on December 30, 2014.

Mapping

David Harrington reports on the top calls for service list for a two week period comparing the weeks of 10/5-10/18 to 10/19 to 11/10 showing they are up 13% with thefts in the #1 spot with an increase of 53.8%. Found property is up 88%, Disorderly conducts are up 175%. Discussions held. Analyst GoodHale to drill down in the 4 areas to make sure the department is coding out the calls correctly. Larcenies and frauds are up. Also to be looked into is the uptick of family fights, juveniles, citizen disputes and family disturbances.

Top 20 incident reports from 146 to 178 up 21.9%
Citizen disputes from 20 to 24) 20%
Family disturbance from 14 to 21 up 50%

They are focusing more on mental health type incidents

Reporting on each sector separately with heat maps: Sector 1 top 20 incident reports (71/91) up 28.2% with heat map; Sector 2 top 15 incident reports (31/36) up 16.1%; Sector 3 top 16 incidents 38/42 up 10.5%; Sector 4 top 10 incident reports 6/9 up 50%. Traffic crashes are up (26/30) 15% due to the non reportable accidents.

Comparing calls for service for January - October 2013 at 8033, and January - October 2014 at 7247, showing calls are down 9.8%. These numbers clearly reflect the efforts and changes within the department. Thefts are down significantly from 930 to 751. They are working on the human errors of coding the calls. The comparison for family fights was 558 to 431; citizen dilutes 444 to 4547. Since the repeat address has been looked at the last year, the next step is to look closer at the repeat offenders. From a statistical point of view, Dave Harrington indicates it looks very good. Commander Tucker is headed to San Francisco to a law enforcement division American Society of Criminologists.

It has been noted that the Carly's Memory bench has been highly respected.

Chief's report

Chief Baker indicates that they have been sending out standard letters to landlords with reference to problems with tenants and 3 have been sent since the last meeting for 103 Library Ave, 106 Library Ave, and 19 Kingsley Court.

Training

Trainings for the department include: dispatcher/clerk's/instructor spill man training, David Kennedy training, Amber alert conference, training with the hospital around Ebola, violent crimes against elderly including death investigation trainings. PowerPoint training with ISIS and Terrorist training. Training on Cell phone technology, first aid and domestic violence are set for this week. Brad Goodhale will attend a training in Stowe.

Motion made by Commissioner Sargeant at 7:27pm and seconded by Commissioner Brown to go into executive session to address personnel issues. Motion passed.

Executive session

The executive session began, present with police commission members, Chief Baker, Commanders Tucker, Geno and Covell to discuss matters that if disclosed publicly at this time, could place the City, the Department or an employee of the department at risk.

Submitted by:

Nancy Manning

cc: Police Commission, Mayor Louras, City Clerk Henry Heck, Board of Aldermen, Union President Lynn Gallipo

