

Rutland City Police Commission

March 9, 2015

Present: Chairman Larry Jensen, Vice Chairman Tom Calcagni, Commissioners Sean Sargeant, Luther Brown and Michelle Fairbrother

Others Present: Acting Chief David Covell, Commanders Captain Scott Tucker, Lt. Kevin Geno

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

Motion made by Commissioner Fairbrother to accept the minutes of February 9, 2015 with one change to correct that Chief "Baker" was present for the executive session to read Acting Chief "Covell" and seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed.

Department Recognition

Acting Chief Covell recognizes and swears in Probationary Officer Damon Angelo. Chief indicates he is glad to have him.

Public Comment

None

Communication from the Union

None

Sergeant's report

Sgt. Sam Delpha indicates he is the supervising Sargeant of Nightshift I, the best shift in the department. He reports that they are fully staffed at 6 assigned officers along with canine with 48 1/2 years of city police experience. He explains to the board his policing approach that he is working to instill a team investigative approach to policing. He is working with a collaborative team to respond and see what further they can do to enhance the response to make it more safe and efficient and working towards a successful conclusion. He indicates that calls for service are down, due to cold winter, with most of the calls being domestic assaults. A good example of his team trying to keep suspects accountable for their actions working together with each one doing a specific job of the arrest, ie., fingerprints, photos, evidence, etc. Captain Covell indicates that Sgt. Delpha is bringing in his BCI experience to his shift in partaking interview and interrogating skills and mentoring his people.

Budget report

Acting Chief Covell indicates that they are in the 35th week, 67% of the total budget and are right on target, where they should be. There has been a 6% increase from the last budget report.

Mapping updates

None as there was no connection made via skype.

Chief's report

Acting Chief Covell indicates that Lt. Geno has put in a lot of hard work to put together and submit a grant application with Homeland Security with reference to the dispatch console radioing system. They will have an answer some time in the fall if they are awarded the grant and would have to cover the labor costs, which could be used out of the seizure fund.

They are doing some research with Max Schleuter, of the Crime Research Group to reduce traffic accidents, with the hope of pinpointing on reducing the injury accidents with the help of Norwich University crime analyst accepting us as one of their projects. Discussions held.

Officers Klementowski and Sorrell are attending a RAD training in New Hampshire this week.

There are two applicants set for Chief interviews for Friday.

Sgt. Sheldon has 12 applicants lined up for written and/or physical performances at the academy. Dispatcher Emily Leinoff is assisting in the dispatch role at the VT Police Academy for scenarios with new recruits. Eric Miller has been appointed to attend RUTstat meeting.

Mayor Louras attended each shift change and thanked officers for all that they have done over the last year and he made it clear and made attribution to his re-election being partly due to the department.

Training

Officers Nguyen and Ashe will attend a pro active motor vehicle enforcement training. Lt. Geno, Sgt. Prouty and Chief Covell will be attending an active shooter training at the RRMCC relating to their training policy. There is scheduled a table top discussion the first part of June. Will be looking at the MOU with them to include EMS. ACO Jones will be attending a Physical Fitness Specialist Training at Cooper Institute; Officer Clemens has completed his waiver courses for the VT Police Academy EPA Course; RO Greene will be going to Florida to attend a National Association of School Resource Officers; Captain Tucker is working with Sgt. Prouty and Brad GoodHale for a possible IACP conference this fall; thanks everyone that was involved with the handling of the dui officer as they did exactly the right things.

Chairman Jensen indicates that the speed on N Main St has gotten fairly high and not for a lack of enforcement and the department is working on the speed trailer.

Chairman Jensen indicates that the morning meetings have been uneventful. Discussions held as to the meetings that Commissioner Fairbrother attended including, the bullet proof vests and the 20+ extra pounds they wear on their belts, the fact that the union is on our agenda, and inviting a representative to attend on the Presidents behalf. Morale on both shifts is great as things have gotten a lot better. Discussions held as to long term officers on the force that have done an excellent job with the improvements that have been going on for the last 3 to 4 years. Captain Tucker indicates that there are 33/34 new police officers out of 52.

Chairman Jensen indicates he would like the officers that have not been introduced to attend the alderman's meeting on Monday, April 21st to make introductions.

Motion made by Commissioner Sargeant to go into executive session and seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed.

Executive session

The executive session began, present with police commission members, Chief Covell, 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
City Clerk Henry Heck
Board of Aldermen
Union President Lynn Gallipo
Mayor Louras