

Rutland City Police Commission
June 8, 2026

Present: Chairperson Pat Brougham, Commissioners Peg Flory, *Matt Whitcomb and Tony Romeo

Also attending: Chief Prouty, Commander Whitehead, Ryan Brady, Desarie Stone-Feliciano

Chairperson Brougham called the meeting to order at 6 pm following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner Flory moved to approved the minutes of May 11, 2026. Commissioner Romeo seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Introduction/Recognition of Police Department Members

Chief Prouty said he will introduce at a future meeting returning employee Mike Delehanty who starts Friday part-time bringing the total of part-time officers to three. Commissioner Romeo asked if Mike is still a Town constable. Chief Prouty said yes.

Chief Prouty said he read an email from Ian Sullivan regarding an aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer case in which the assailant apologized and thanked Officers Olsen and Dungal who arrested her resulting in saving her life. Commander Whitehead emailed officers and staff thanking them for their dedication and professionalism during the Dorr Drive incident that resulted with the suspect in custody without incident. Commissioner Romeo said he listened to the incident on the scanner and was very impressed with the level of communication.

Chief Prouty read an email from Britt Cassel, Program Director at Giorgetti Athletic Complex, thanking Officer Rice for conducting a staff training on de-escalation and conflict resolution tactics as part of on-boarding of new summer staff. They would like to have Officer Rice again conduct this training again next year.

*Commissioner Whitcomb arrived

Commanders' Reports

Commander Whitehead said there have been 1,380 calls since the last meeting. They have just finished the motor vehicle enforcement campaign which will result in money and equipment for the department. Officer Ducharme and Commander Whitehead conducted taser training at the Academy for post-basic full-time class. Commander Whitehead discussed the benefit of the Axon contract during the Dorr Drive incident as it allowed them to live stream from the body and car cameras keeping everyone safe while they were short staffed. He also received a message on Facebook regarding Officer Falco going above and beyond to retrieve a dog. The PT test runs Tuesday through Friday at 3pm at the Rec.

Ryan gave Commander Williams report saying there are 18 open applications with two people ready for the assessment center and two people in background. Testing will be ongoing through the summer.

Budget Report

Chief Prouty said as of June 4 they are 92.9% into the FY26 and the budget is at 96.93% which is 4.03% over budget. When considering revenue from outside jobs the budget is 93.9% or 1% over budget. The following reimbursements are expected: \$4,392.20 an equipment reimbursement from a DUI grant and \$31,545 from the VT Interfaith Alliance for the Cold Weather Shelter which would result in the budget being less than 1% over budget. There has been a decrease in spending over the last month, but the final budget is projected to be over at the end of the year. Commissioner Romeo asked if the Chief talked to the Aldermen about returning some of the revenue from outside jobs. Chief Prouty said the amount charged for the use of patrol cars in outside jobs will be returned to the equipment replacement fund. Commissioner Whitcomb congratulated the Department for staying so close to budget in a difficult year. Chief Prouty said it helped that they haven't hired another commander, two officers resigned and the addition of swing shifts.

Chief's Report

Chief Prouty said he met with the new City Attorney about the relationship between the PD and the Attorney's office, current legal matters and his assistance with upcoming collective bargaining negotiations. He said Desarie has been attending the Personnel Manual task force meetings and he believes there is some opportunity to support Rutland Town in the 250th Birthday celebration at Northwood Pool with bike patrol. Chief Prouty suggested that Rob from the Fairgrounds needs to get in touch with the PD regarding the July 4 fireworks. National Night Out is August 4 from 4-7 pm at the fairgrounds. On May 21 the RPD had a booth at the Work Force in Motion Summit hosted by the Chamber at the Castleton University Campus. On May 29 the Annual Police Memorial was held in the VISION room and the PBA and Color Guard did a great job using historic photos. The memorial can be seen on PegTV.

Trainings Completed

May – Blood-borne Pathogens and HazMat Training
May 4-8 – Commander Williams conducted spring firearms training
Field Training Officers Certification for Officer Dungal
Highway Safety Refresher Commander Whitehead, Sgt. Morgano, Cpl. Blanchard, Officers Blanchard, Ducharme and Beverly

Upcoming Training

July 27-28 – Sexual Assault Investigation for Det. Sgt. Dickerson and Det. Stewart

Issues and Comments from Commissioners

Commissioner Romeo discussed the asset of the drone used in the Dorr Drive incident. Chief Prouty said the State Police provided the drone and operator.

Commissioner Romeo asked about the Ethics Training email from the HR Director for all elected and appointed officials by July 1. He asked if the Commissioners are required to take the training. Chairperson Brougham said she would look into it with the City Attorney.

Executive Session

At 6:27 pm Commissioner Flory moved to go into Executive Session under 1 VSA §313 to discuss personnel issues and invited the Chief and Commander Whitehead to participate. Commissioner Romeo seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Romeo motioned to end Executive Session and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Executive Session ended at 7:03 pm. There were no actionable items.

Adjournment

Commissioner Flory motioned to adjourn and Commissioner Whitcomb seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Submitted by Barbara Spaulding

CC: Chief Matt Prouty
Mayor Tom Donahue
Police Commission
City Clerk Tracy Kapusta
Board of Aldermen
Union President