

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

P.O. BOX 1002
20 HAMMOND STREET
PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK 12771



Police Committee Meeting Minutes

20 June 2024 6pm

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members present: Mr. Vicchiariello, Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Fuller, Ms. Mann, Mr. Hockenberry, Mr. Rhoades, Ms. Dennison, Chief Worden.

Public Comment: No public comment received.

New Business

- SWLE Program – Social Work Internship 2024-2025 School Year
Ms. Brittany Smith, a master's level social work student at Adelphi University was interviewed by department command staff and approved by SWLE to participate in a one-year internship program (450 hrs. unpaid) at the Port Jervis Police Department for the Fall and Spring semester. Chief Worden is awaiting certificate of insurance and internship agreements for presentation to Common Council for approval.
- National Night Out Grant and Event Update- \$10,000 funding secured through a legislative initiative from Sen. Skoufis to support purchases of equipment, supplies and services for National Night Out Against Crime. Purchases include tents for the city, ice maker and other event related services.
- Anti-Violence Grant Award 2024-2025- Sen. Skoufis has secured \$100,000 through the SNUG anti-violence prevention program to provide a second year of funding to support department initiatives and community partnerships to prevent violence.
- Traffic Safety Initiatives- Police traffic services grant related enforcement activities scheduled to address accident-causing driving behaviors throughout the summer in addition to pedestrian safety waves, and enhanced DWI enforcement during the July 4th holiday.
- Outreach Summary/Events
 - Jump Out Anti-Violence Event- Church Street Park June 21

- Salvation Army Sunshine and Smiles Event June 22
 - HBE Field Day Activities June 24, 25
 - ASK 1st Grade Safety Day June 24
 - Port Jervis High School Graduation Parade June 28
- Upgraded Camera Infrastructure-City Hall safety and security cameras have been upgraded and several cameras added in the building including the front entrance of City Hall.
 - School Crossing Guard Posts 2024-2025 School Year- The department is researching potential crossing guard post changes for the new East Main Street Elementary School (k-5) and Port Jervis Middle School (6-8). The Chief will consult with PJCS D Superintendent Dr. Bell and school transportation for further information.
 - Hiring- Police Officer – Civil Service List- A candidate selection committee consisting of two members of the citizens advisory council, two members of the police committee, police command staff, and either Mayor Cicalese or Councilman At Large Hockenberry, will oversee the selection process of police officer vacancies for the Fall police academy cycle.
 - Worker’s Compensation Reimbursement – Injured Officer – 207c Leave- The City received a reimbursement of \$37,659.37 towards the cost of salary for an injured officer currently off duty on long term leave.
 - NYS Cannabis Enforcement Changes- The committee reviewed recent changes to the NYS Cannabis Control Act providing municipalities and Counties with expanded authority through the adoption of local laws to assist in the regulation of cannabis retail establishments. According to the NYS Cannabis Control Board:

“NYS has legislated policies enacted to address the illicit cannabis marketplace as part of the FY25 Budget. This initiative provides the Office of Cannabis Management and local counties and cities with enhanced authority to act against illicit cannabis storefronts and those who enable them. The enforcement role of local governments varies, but all have options they may use to investigate and close illicit cannabis shops through a structured process aimed at enforcing regulatory compliance and maintaining public safety. County and city governments can adopt their own laws related to regulating unlicensed cannabis businesses, including emergency padlocking and seizure powers, so long as the law meets the following requirements:

- Ensure consistent enforcement and procedures to conduct inspections, hearings, and padlocking businesses that mirror OCM's.
- Designate a point of contact to coordinate with OCM to report on enforcement activities.
- Require hearings in City or County courts within 3 business days of emergency padlocking and a court decision within 4 business days after the hearing, for locations that were padlocked at first inspection due to imminent threat to health and safety.

County, City, Town and Village governments can initiate emergency proceedings with orders to cease illicit activity against both businesses and landlords using Section 16-a of the Cannabis Law, upon 10 days' notice to OCM, with the option to collect penalties in those proceedings.”

- New Academy Tuition Changes 2025- The Police Chiefs Association Police Academy will be charging an annual fee to access unlimited training opportunities for new recruits (basic police officer training) and extensive in-service training options by department size. A tier 1 department with 50 sworn offices and above will cost \$10,000, Tier 2 department with 20-50 members \$5000.00 and a Tier 3 department containing below 20 members will cost \$3000.00. The impact to the City of Port Jervis in FY 2025 will be \$5,000.00.

Old Business

- AED Distribution – All AED Units for each respective department have been received. Pediatric AED pads have additionally been purchased and provided for Police, Fire and Recreation Departments. Police have deployed the new units.
- Range Building- Building shell is scheduled for construction on June 25th. DPW is currently installing water line infrastructure to the site and will be pouring the concrete floor once the building is constructed.
- Traffic/Signage – Funding for a portable speed advisory trailer was allocated in the 2024 budget. The committee discussed the value of deploying a digital advisory board to alert the public to road conditions, events, safety information and promote public safety. Finance committee to review budget for potential purchase.
- Department Annual Awards Report- the committee was provided with a copy of the 2023 annual awards report for review and distribution to the Common Council.

- Lt. Christopher Sargente successfully completed 40 hours of executive training through the Mid Atlantic Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar hosted by the FBI.
- Technology Grant – Public Cameras- The department is soliciting proposals from camera vendors to upgrade the city’s twelve public safety camera sites with the goal of adding six additional sites to the network at select locations in the city. The goal is to obtain three proposals to review with the police committee with a project implementation goal of September 2024.
- License Plate Reader Project – Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant- Cameras are scheduled to be installed in July at the intersections of Pike/Water Streets, Kingston Avenue near Van Avenue, East Main Street / N. Maple Avenue.
- Accreditation NYS DCJS- The department has submitted a request for a January 2025 Accreditation site inspection.
- Medical Trauma Kits have been purchased and deployed in patrol vehicles.

Committee Comments

- Mr. Vicchiariello requested the speed monitor be deployed on Reservoir Ave.
- Mr. Hockenberry discussed the need to educate pedestrians regarding safe crossings at crosswalks.

Public Comment – No public comment received.

Executive Session- Committee entered executive session at 7:18pm to discuss:

- Part Time Lieutenant Hours
- School Police Officer appointment

The meeting was reconvened at 7:30pm and was subsequently adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Worden

Chief of Police