

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

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



Police Committee Meeting Minutes 17 April 2025

1804 hrs.: Meeting called to order- Pledge of Allegiance

Members present: Mr. Vicchiariello, Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Mann, Mr. Rhoades, Mr. Siegel, Ms. Dennison.

Public Comment – No public comment received.

New Business

- **FBI Safe Streets Task Force** – The committee reviewed assigning a police detective as a part-time member to the FBI Hudson Valley Safe Streets Task Force located in New Windsor, New York, servicing the Hudson Valley, including the city of Port Jervis. The FBI Safe Streets Task Force provides resources to partner agencies to investigate violent crimes, organized gangs, and narcotics trafficking organizations using a task force team approach led by the FBI. Assigning an officer part time to the task force qualifies the city to receive up to \$19,372 per year in task force related overtime reimbursement, access to a team of experienced federal, state and local investigators, experience in long term, complex investigations, improved communication and coordination among agencies and prosecutors', intelligence sharing, and access to FBI resources, equipment, training and partner agencies. The assigned part-time member will receive Federal Title 18 and 21 Deputation and be assigned to assist in task force investigations as needed on a part-time basis. Matter to be referred to the Common Council for approval.
- **Orange County Drug Task Force** – The Chief reported the department is currently working with the Orange County District Attorney's Office to develop an inter-municipal agreement with the County to assign a detective as a part time member of the Orange County Drug Task Force receiving up to \$20,000 per year reimbursement for overtime expended resulting from task force investigations.
- **First Quarter Crime Report** – The Chief reviewed key statistical data related to crime rates, crash data, and overtime expenditures for the 1st quarter of 2025.
- **System Coordinator Funding Request – Social Work-Service Coordinator Position:**
The Chief applied for \$240,000 in funding through the office of Sen. James Skoufis to implement a System Coordinator position within the police department.
The Service Coordinator would follow up and enhance police officer responses to calls for services involving vulnerable populations. This proactive approach may lead to a reduction in mental health, homelessness, and substance abuse-related calls for service for our department, as potential issues will be more easily identified and properly managed before police need to be dispatched. Individuals within the community will have a designated resource within the police department to handle their questions and address their concerns. In addition, access to a trained service coordinator will enhance our ability to de-escalate situations involving persons who are in crisis, increasing positive outcomes for assistance. A service coordinator can develop suitable treatment plans that keep the best interests of the individual and the community in mind, providing effective follow-up and intervention services for better outcomes. The grant would cover program costs, including a starting salary of approximately \$75,000, in addition to allocating up to \$45,000 annually for fringe benefits, to be competitive and attract viable candidates. Pilot program for two years, totaling \$240,000.00. The position could then be

staffed and evaluated to determine its efficiency and effectiveness in incorporating the position within the department.

- Traffic Safety Grant Applications - The department is researching and drafting grant applications for the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Police Traffic Services Program and Child Passenger Safety Seat Program, due May 1, 2025.
- Traffic Study Hamilton/Canal Street- The department will be conducting a study of crash volumes occurring at the intersection of Canal Street and Hamilton Street to determine the need for a potential four-way stop intersection.
- The department has retained the Niki Jones Agency to develop and implement an online recruitment initiative for the police officer civil service exam scheduled for November 1st, 2025.
- Protective Window Film- City Hall – The committee discussed obtaining quotes to obtain security film for the lower-floor windows to the offices and the police department at City Hall to enhance building security.

Old Business

- Range Building – Update – Obtaining quotes from contractors to install drywall, spackle, and tape.
- Surveillance Camera Project- City-wide camera installation begins the week of the 21st of April.
- Accreditation Update- Department continues to progress toward final preparation for the New York State DCJS Accreditation program assessment. The department will be required to participate in a pre-assessment process in late April, where ten accreditation files will be assessed by the DCJS team of accreditation auditors.

Committee Comments

Mr. Siegel requested enhanced traffic enforcement patrols at the intersection of Jersey Avenue and East Main Street during afternoon and evening hours, due to complaints received from residents involving traffic at the intersection.

Ms. Dennison requested a drone demonstration be scheduled and commented that the Women's Self-Defense Seminar was an excellent and informative event.

Public Comment: No public comment received.

Executive Session – N/A

Adjournment 1909 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Worden

Chief of Police