

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

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



Police Committee Meeting Minutes

15 March 2023 7:00pm

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Decker at 7:17pm after the completion of Finance Committee Meeting with the following members present: Mayor Decker, Ms. Miller, Ms. Fuller, Ms. Mann, Mr. Siegel, Mr. Decker, Mr. Livingston, Ms. Newhauser, Chief Worden.

Public Comment: No public comment received.

New Business: Updates-

- Monthly Crime and Statistical Report reviewed by the committee for the month of February and year to date.
- Officer Physical Fitness – Wellness Incentive Program (*Rec #17*)
The Chief discussed developing a potential voluntary officer wellness incentive through the implementation of a physical fitness testing program. The program would involve using the current MPTC physical fitness standards for police officer candidates and providing an incentive for officers to voluntarily participate and test annually to ensure they are meeting recommended physical fitness standards. Incentives may include a monetary payment or leave time. Committee to review and discuss further.
- 2023 COPS Hiring Grant: The committee reviewed the 2023 Cops Hiring Program grant solicitation through the Dept of Justice which will fund \$125,000 over three years to off-set the costs of hiring a police officer to increase an agency's community policing or capacity to engage in community policing activities. The Police Chief suggested applying for this grant to off-set the cost of assigning a full time detective to the Orange County Drug Task Force using grant funding to backfill this position. The grant application is due on May 4, 2023 and would require council approval. Committee to review.
- 2023 GTSC Traffic Safety Grants – The department will be applying for funding through the Governors Traffic Safety Committee to obtain overtime funding to support enhanced police traffic services, seat belt enforcement and to purchase child passenger seats to support Child Passenger Safety Seat outreach programs. Grant requests are due May 1, 2023.
- Pop Up Food Pantry and Outreach – Veteran's Park – May 10th 10am-2pm. The event has been approved by Recreation Director John Faggione and will require Council Approval. Committee forwarded matter to Council for approval during next regularly scheduled meeting.

Old Business: (Updates, Reform, Reinvention & Collaborative Report- EO 203)

- Emergency Services Club – Port Jervis High School (*Rec #11,#12, #14*)
 - a. The first meeting of the Port Jervis High School Emergency Services Club was held on Wednesday afternoon (3/15) involving the Port Jervis Police Dept, Fire Department and Ambulance Corps.

School Nurse Amy Weinick has been selected by the District to serve as Club Advisor. Approximately 8 students attended the first meeting and received information from the police, fire and emergency medical services including a police canine presentation. The club will meet twice a month (Wednesday 230-330 at the Port Jervis High School).

- Civil Service Canvas – Vacant Patrol Officer Position (Rec #6)
 - a. The department is currently canvassing eligible candidates through Civil Service for preparation to fill a vacancy in the police department. Candidates selected will be interviewed during the month of April by a committee comprised of police department administration, members of the CPAC, and City Council members.
- Reform Committee Recommendation-Officer Contact Cards (Rec #3)
 - a. All officers have been supplied with 500 officer contact cards to distribute to the public upon request. The cards were purchased through VistaPrint in quantities of 500 cards at \$33.57 each officer (\$1153.46). Cards issued to all full time sworn officers and animal control.
- Wellness – Power Line Wellness App (Rec #17)
 - a. The Committee watched a ten minute video presentation outlining the product and services offered to officers confidentially 24 hours a day for wellness support. The cost of the program is \$1,350 to implement (engineering fees) and \$3,003 annually thereafter. The Chief will continue to review programs with department EAP personnel and update the committee.
 - b. Sgt Mioglionico and Officer Kerr (Department Peer Support EAP Personnel) will be attending a 16 hour DCJS Peer Development Seminar on March 16-17, 2023 and will investigate mobile wellness solutions.
- Officer Residency (Rec # 5)
 - a. The committee discussed increasing the residency requirement for officers as per the 2021 Reform Collaborative Report. Currently, police officers must be New York State residents (NYS Law) and live within 15 miles of the City of Port Jervis geographical limits. The committee proposed the following revised residency requirement: New York State Resident, Orange County Residents or reside within 30 miles of the geographic limits of the City of Port Jervis. The Chief will review the City Charter and consult with Corporation Counsel to determine if the change can be made through Council resolution.
- 2023 Statistical Dashboard (Final Edit) –(Rec # 8)
 - a. *The committee reviewed and approved the format for the 2022 Statistical Dashboard.*

Senior Citizen Safety: The department will be meeting with the Port Jervis Senior Club on March 22, 2023 to provide fraud and crime prevention information.

Chaplain Update: Chaplain Tom Zahradnik will be transferring to Syracuse in June, 2023 ending his service as police chaplain. Pastor Jose Rodriguez from Goodwill Church, Port Jervis, will be meeting with the department to begin preparations to replace Pastor Tom to serve as department chaplain.

Committee Comments: No Comments

Public Comment: No Comments

Executive Session: N/A

Adjournment: 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
William J. Worden
Chief of Police