

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

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



Police Committee

16 January 2025

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the following members in attendance

Mr. Vicchiariello, Ms. Fuller, Ms. Mann, Mr. Siegel, and Ms. Dennison.

- Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment – No Comment from members of the public.

New Business

- Hiring- Police Officer Vacancies– Civil Service List – The Committee will be convening a city hiring committee consisting of members of the police committee, police department, and citizens advisory group to interview nine candidates for the position of police officer to fill two vacancies. The interviews are scheduled for January 28th and 30th. The Chief of Police has recused himself from the decision-making process by disclosing a family relation with a candidate.
- Dispatcher Candidate –The Chief requested the committee approve moving the application of part-time dispatcher candidate Lynette Davenport to the Common Council for approval. Ms. Davenport meets the civil service criteria and has completed a departmental background check.
- A promotional examination for the position of police chief is being held during the month of March by the Civil Service Commission.
- The Civil Service Commission will be hosting a police officer examination in September 2025.
- CompStat Report – The Chief reviewed preliminary crime and crash data with the committee for 2024.
 - ✓ Overall Criminal Offenses as reported through the IBR System are down by 14.62%
 - ✓ UCR Part I Crimes (most serious violent and property crimes) are down by 14.72 % with notable decreases in crimes involving Aggravated Assault, Robbery, Burglary, MV theft, and larceny.
 - ✓ 40% reduction in pedestrian-related accidents.
 - ✓ 5.32% reduction in domestic incident calls for service with 9.5% decrease in domestic violence-related offenses.
 - ✓ 66% reduction in fraud cases

Some notable areas of increase:

- ✓ Sex Offenses- 33%
- ✓ Weapons related cases: 75%
- ✓ Personal Injury Auto Crashes 31.25%
- Safety Planning – Public Events – The committee discussed reviewing safety planning for ensuring barricaded street closures for downtown city events. The Police Dept, DPW and City Officials will be conducting a future meeting to review current protocols.
- Canine Unit – The Chief reviewed a donation request of a 1-year-old Belgian Malinois from a local resident. The department is unable to accept the donation at this time.

The Chief updated the committee on the need to begin planning for the potential retirement of the department's current canine, "Roan" who is a certified narcotics detection and patrol canine. Roan is 9 years of age and has been faithfully served the residents of our community with his canine handler, Officer Andrew Haniuk, since 2017. The Chief has been researching grant funding opportunities to implement a potential second canine that is trained to detect explosives, and firearms and perform patrol duties. The Chief will obtain additional information for the committee to review.

- Traffic – Regulatory Changes – The following changes have been ordered for the City Code: Lyman Street- Stop Sign installed at the intersection with Gordon Street, School Zones- Kingston Avenue and East Main Street- The School district has installed the following updated school zone reduced speed limit signs: "20 MPH when lights are flashing".
- SNUG Grant Anti-Violence Programs: The department is working with the Port Jervis City School District to implement the following anti-violence programs at the Elementary School, Middle School, and High School using grant funding through the SNUG Anti-Violence Initiative.

1. Sweethearts and Heroes – Port Jervis Middle School March 28th.
2. Jared Campbell- EME/HBE Elementary School
3. The Mindset Makeover- PJHS

- An additional \$100,000 of SNUG Anti-Violence Grant Funding has been awarded for FY 2025-2026.
- Mount Saint Mary College Intern Paige Montgomery has started her Spring Semester internship with the department – 130 hours.

Old Business

- Range Building – Update- The concrete floor has been completed. The Chief is working through DASNY to finalize the CREST Grant to release an additional \$100,000 in funding to complete the building interior. The City Department of Public Works and

the Town of Deerpark will be partnering to construct the interior framing of the building using in-kind and shared services.

- License Plate Reader and Surveillance Camera Project - The department is testing various wireless transmission services including Verizon and T-Mobile and is seeking a proposal from Spectrum Internet to provide connectivity to stream video images from the camera sites to the station. The department is experiencing technical difficulties with the current wireless air card streaming of video.
- Accreditation NYS DCJS and Program Grant – The department is working toward achieving the goal of hosting an accreditation site visit for the month of June and is reviewing a grant socialization to apply for funds to purchase upgraded storage cabinets for the evidence room to ensure accreditation compliance.

Goals:

The committee discussed the following goals for 2025:

- Staffing police officer vacancies and new officer recruitment
- Completing the City-wide Public Surveillance Camera Project
- Research funding to support a co-located Civilian System Coordinator (social work) to coordinate external resources to support police officer problem-solving strategies.
- Research canine unit funding
- Research the feasibility of creating a city-operated vehicle impound facility.

Committee Comments N/A

Public Comment No comments received.

Executive Session N/A

Adjournment 6:43 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Worden

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Chief of Police