



POLICE COMMISSION

Manchester Police Department
405 Valley Street
Manchester, NH 03103

MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2016 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The Regular Monthly Meeting was held at Police Headquarters on August 3, 2016, at 09:00 hours. The meeting was attended by Comm. Mark Roy (Chairman), Comm. Bill Clifford, Eva Castillo-Turgeon, Comm. Steven Spain, Comm. Scott Spradling, Assistant Chief Carlo Capano, Capt. Todd Boucher, Capt. Mike Begley, Capt. Ryan Grant, Lt. Steve Reardon, Lt. Sean Leighton, and Kim Demers (Secretary).

1. NOTICES POSTED / APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The Commission was advised that the notices had been posted at City Hall, the City Library, as well as on the MPD's website homepage, event calendar, and blog.
- Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes of the June 1, 2016, meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no one present from the Public to offer comments.

3. DIVISIONAL REPORTS

Community Policing Division – Capt. Boucher:

- During July, CP officers attended the Rimmon Heights and Somerville Street watch group meetings.
- CP officers participated in a public safety meeting at Elmwood Gardens
- Attended the Chamber of Commerce "Picnic in the Park" event on July 20.
- Attended a ribbon cutting ceremony at the renovated Sheridan Emmett Park basketball courts on July 21.
- Participated in a prostitution operation with SED and Patrol staff, resulting in 6-7 arrests.
- Assisted with Operation Hornets Nest, targeting street-level drug activity.
- Working on a plan to implement mandatory Active Shooter Training to all city employees.
- Continuing to address the increased number of homeless camps popping up around the city.
- Continuing to focus patrolling in the downtown area.
- Hilton Garden hotel made a \$2,000 donation to the Mounted Unit.

Questions, Comments, Discussion:

- Comm. Spain requested clarification on the Active Shooter Training proposed for all city employees. Capt. Boucher advised that CP Officer Nate Linstad is often requested by area businesses to conduct this training which provides three options for courses of action should an armed subject start shooting within the place of employment. It would benefit city employees to know how to react in the event of someone shooting within city buildings.
- Comm. Clifford inquired if the Mounted Unit is still assigned to downtown-area patrol. Capt. Boucher confirmed the two mounted officers work downtown from 7A – 2P Monday-Friday. The officers are mounted 2 days and are on foot patrol the other 3 days. Capt. Boucher stated that the department has received a lot of positive public feedback re: the mounted patrol.
- Comm. Roy inquired if CP officers were still conducting weekly basketball sessions with youth at the basketball courts. Capt. Boucher advised the initiative had been discontinued, though CP officers did shoot some baskets with the Fun in the Sun program.

Patrol Division – Capt. Begley:

- ALERRT training session scheduled for August 22 & 23, which will train 25 officers and nearly complete the complement of patrol officers. Three additional sessions are scheduled for December 2015, and February and April 2016, which will accommodate 75 in all, to include divisional staff, recently hired recruits, and to conduct joint training exercises with surrounding police departments.
- The Warrant Team, implemented in June, has made 85 arrests to date on 10 activations. There is approximately one-third of the grant funding remaining, which should carry the initiative through to the end of the month.
- The Trouble Car initiative, which put extra officers and supervisors on the street, has been instrumental in providing proactive patrol activities during the busy summer months.
- Traffic Unit completed a NH Highway Safety Agency Grant for FY-2017.
- Traffic Officer Aquino stopped 385 motor vehicles and issued 184 summonses during July.

- Traffic Officer Wood assisted the Training Unit with employment polygraphs and assisting with hit-and-run accident cases. The number of hit-and-run cases has increased this year.
- Traffic/Motorcycle Officer Olson has been assigned to the downtown area for the summer months.
- Traffic/Auto Theft Officer Paul Fraitzl was temporarily assigned to the Special Enforcement Division for the summer, and is scheduled to retire effective August 19.
- Traffic officers assisted with two wakes/funerals and the city July 4 fireworks.
- Traffic conducted sobriety checkpoints in June and July, with another scheduled in September.
- Traffic will assist with the CIGNA Road Race on August 11.
- The K9 team welcomed two new canine/handler teams in July. Officers Richard Valenti and Tom McAuliffe graduated from the Boston K9 school at the end of the month and all reports indicate they did an exceptional job. Sgt. John Cunningham, a former K9 officer and now one of two K9 Unit supervisors, graduated from a K9 instructor training and is now a certified instructor. Sgt. Knight, the co-supervisor of the unit, will attend the K9 Training Instructor school in September. K9 Officer Tyler will be retiring his current canine partner at the beginning of September, but wishes to continue his K9 handler assignment and so will be assigned a new canine and will attend the Boston K9 Academy in September. After completing the basic Academy, Officer Tyler and his canine will then attend an academy in January to be specially trained for bomb detection. Officer Donovan and his canine partner will be attending a five-week narcotic detection school in mid August. Ultimately the department will have three bomb dogs and seven drug dogs.
- The K9 Unit hosted the USPCA Region 4 trials in June and did a fantastic job. The officers spent a lot of their own time preparing for the event in order to provide a professional environment/atmosphere.
- Three officers are on military duty, Officer Jered Maguire will be returning August 8; Officer Stone was activated for one year, and will complete his deployment in the Spring of 2017. Officer Swinson, activated in June 2015 is not scheduled to return until late summer of 2017.
- Injury Status: Officers Hardy and O'Connor, who sustained gunshot injuries in May, will return to duty on August 8. Officer Smith, who was injured in October 2015 and has been working light duty, will return to full-duty status next week. Officer Catano will be out for approximately four months due to an off-duty injury

Questions, Comments, Discussion:

- Comm. Roy inquired as to the extent of forced overtime for officers. Capt. Begley responded that it hasn't been extreme due to the fact that the SROs have been assigned to Patrol from the summer. Looking ahead, there are a lot of vacation requests for August and September.
- Comm. Spradling commented that his wife attended the USPCA Region 4 trials and thought the event was a great community relations venue. It showed the effort the MPD K9 officers put into organizing the event and are commended for utilizing their own time to ensure its success.

Legal Division – Lt. Reardon:

- OVB staff are being recertified in SPOTS.
- OVB director Dale Robinson is enhancing the computer system to better track alarm permits and is implementing a false-alarm tracking of city schools and public buildings.
- Records Unit has been managing as best they can with reduced staffing due to summer vacations and medical issues, and handling increased arrest activity generated by the many divisional initiatives.
- Records Specialist Rob Josephson does a fantastic job updating electronically the changes that come through refile the criminal complaints.
- Patrol Officer Tanner will be attending a two-week basic Police Prosecutor school. Once trained he will bolster the prosecutorial staff, who not only conducts arraignments but also provides instruction to recruits during in-house academies. Currently there are only three full-time prosecutorial staff making a difficult situation if someone is out sick or on vacation.
- Juvenile Prosecutor Officer Thomas created initiatives for electronic monitoring for juveniles. Working with Juvenile Probation/Parole Officers to identify juveniles who would best fit the monitoring system.
- Sex Offender Unit Officer Desmarais continues to monitor 528 sex offenders living in the city. He also assists as needed as a court prosecutor for both adult and juvenile proceedings. He is a great asset to the legal division as well as the agency. There has been some grant funding made available to conduct sex offender compliance checks, which takes some of the burden off Officer Desmarais.

Questions, Comments, Discussion:

- Comm. Spradling inquired as to how many prosecutors MPD has. There are three full time prosecutors, including himself, and four that have had training and can assist when needed. Assist. Chief Capano advised the department has made attempts to have the City Solicitor's Office take over the prosecutorial duties, but the City Solicitor refuses to take it on.
- Comm. Roy commented that it was ridiculous to have non-lawyers do court proceedings. Lt. Reardon commented that in "the old days" police arraignment prosecutors were common. Conducting arraignments is one

thing, but Juvenile Prosecutor Thomas actually prosecutes at trials for juvenile offenders – which should definitely be conducted by a lawyer.

Investigative Division – Capt. Grant:

- Making headway in a recent shooting involving juveniles. Det. Barbee is the lead investigator on the case. Through her assignment as SRO at Central High School, her relationship with kids is phenomenal.
- Will be assigning a new SRO at Hillside – the selection will be made soon.
- Sgt. Peter Marr has been assigned supervisor of the Domestic Violence Unit – to replace Lt. Thompson who was assigned to the Detective Unit following his promotion in July. The DVU is working on some large scale human trafficking cases.
- Looking to replace victim-witness advocate Andrea Tousignant who retired July 29. She is one of the most experienced advocates in the State and will be hard to replace.
- The AmeriCorps volunteer term will be ending soon. No replacement has been lined up as yet.
- Det. Sgt. Loui is working on grants to fund a new crime scene van. The current van is 20 years old and antiquated.
- Evidence is struggling for storage. We have a great new building here except for storage capacity. Evidence techs are putting in overtime to purge as much evidence as possible. The process is time consuming as the techs must research that the corresponding cases have long since been adjudicated before submitting court motions to be allowed to purge items. The gun room is particularly full – some guns date back to 1980s cases. The PD maintains a vault at Citizens Bank where homicide evidence is stored. The PD would have to scramble to find a new location if the bank branch closes.

Questions, Comments, Discussion:

- Comm. Roy inquired if there was any update on older cases, specifically the northend homicide. Capt. Grant assured that homicide cases remain active.
- Comm. Roy questioned how the SROs are funded. AC Capano advised the MOU with the School District is the same as last year – four SROs are reimbursed at a starting officer salary and four are reimbursed at the officers' actual rate of pay.

Special Enforcement Division – Lt. Leighton:

- Capt. Sanclemente is attending a NH Tactical Officers Association (NHTOA) meeting today.
- SWAT team members had firearms qualifications, and the snipers trained at the Auburn range.
- Assisted DEA with executing a search warrant at El Patron – largest seizure of methamphetamine (16 lbs.) in state of NH.
- Det. Gonzales developed information ref a large scale drug operation that led to the seizure of crack cocaine.
- Conducted a prostitution operation in conjunction with Community Policing which led to six arrests.
- Det. Feather obtained information that led to the arrest of a fugitive from justice residing in Manchester wanted for murder out of Lynn, Mass.
- Det. Fraitzl, the auto theft investigator, will retire effective August 19.
- Two SED officers are injured, one is back light duty. It has worked well to have two Community Policing officers assigned to SED for the summer months.

Assistant Chief Capano:

- Chief Willard and Capt. Hopkins are on vacation.
- On behalf of Capt. Hopkins, the department will be converting to a new radio system over the next few weeks. Portable radios are ready to be disseminated to sworn staff and will go on line as soon as all cruisers have been updated with the new system.
- The Training Unit will administer a police officer test on August 6. There are 191 applicants, and anticipate 130-150 of those will actually show for the test. There are five officer vacancies to fill.
- One new dispatcher starts on August 8 leaving two vacancies to fill.
- Wes Anderson from Fleet proposed to CIP to increase the PD fleet by 10 cars – five cruisers and five unmarked. CIP approved the increase. With the increase in the sworn complement, the department is often struggling to find vehicle to accommodate needs.
- The PDSS contract has been renewed for one year: no COLA, but will maintain pay steps and longevity.
- MPPA and MAPS contracts are still being negotiated.
- The department monitored three Black Lives Matter rallies in Manchester. Thankfully each was peaceful, but rallies such as these put a strain on manpower.
- In a recent storm, during high wind, part of the chain-link fence separating the secured lot from the employee parking lot became detached. It is scheduled to be repaired August 4.

4. RETIREMENTS / RESIGNATIONS

- Officer Richard Nanan retired effective June 25, 2016, after 17 years of service with MPD.
- Domestic Violence Victim-Witness advocate retired effective August 1, 2016, after 20 years of service with MPD.
- Investigator Paul Fraitzl will retire effective August 19, 2016, after 19-plus years of service with MPD.

5. SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES REVIEW

- The minutes for the Safety Committee meeting of June 22, 2016, were reviewed. No special issues of note.

6. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING / MOTION TO ADJOURN

The date of the next commission meeting was set for:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016, AT 09:00 HOURS

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 hours.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission entered Executive Session, the content of which shall remain confidential

Respectfully submitted by:
Kim Demers, Secretary

PC080316