

Claremont Police Commission Meeting

Public Minutes

Wednesday, October 21, 2015 @ 5:30 PM

@ Visitor's Center/Planning & Development Office, 14 North Street

- I. Roll call & Call to Order: The meeting was called to order **at 5:38 pm**. Commissioner Courtemanche, Commissioner Raymond and Commissioner Tremblay were all present. Chief Scott was present.

- II. Citizens Forum: Stephen Bergen appears at 6:26 pm for citizen's forum. He expressed his concerns about security at the Bourden Center on Maple Avenue and requested extra patrols of the parking area and building. He also requested that Sr. Officer O'Hearne come review security camera footage to see what is going on at the building. Mr. Bergen was not able to provide any specifics about what has happening at the building other than to keep repeating "harassment and threats." Mr. Bergen did not have ride home to the Bourden Center so Chief Scott offered to provide Mr. Bergen a ride after the Commission Meeting which Mr. Bergen accepted.

Chief Scott updated the Commission on Heather O'Hara's email to Commissioner Tremblay. Commissioner Tremblay instructed Ms. O'Hara through his email to contact Chief Scott. Ms. O'Hara has not contact Chief Scott or Commissioner Tremblay. There have been no additional calls for service concerning the neighborhood issue noted in the email. Chief Scott reviewed the email correspondence with William "Bill" Brink including Chief Scott's response to Mr. Brink's complaints and Mr. Brink's complaint email to the City Manager.

III. Review Minutes of August 19th, 2015 Public Meeting and September 16th, 2015 Public Meeting:

After review of the September 16th 2015 public meeting minutes Commissioner Tremblay made a motion to accept said minutes and Commissioner Courtemanche seconded said motion and both voted in favor of said motion. Commissioner Raymond abstained since she was excused from said meeting.

After review of the August 19th 2015 public meeting minutes Commissioner Courtemanche made a motion to accept said minutes, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Raymond and both voted in favor of said motion. Commissioner Tremblay abstained since he was excused from said meeting.

IV. Preview of October and November, 2015 upcoming events: Chief Scott noted that upcoming events include Hallowesta events and Halloween. Black Friday and the holiday shopping season is a busy time, especially as it pertains to Washington Street traffic. Chief Scott noted they hope to be able to assign an officer to cover just Washington Street during the holiday season to assist with motor vehicle enforcement and shopping plaza issues. During this discussion to traffic issues were noted by the Commission. Motorists consistently ignore the no left turn sign at the end of Arthur Street coming onto Washington Street and there are no route number signs in Opera House Square for Main Street (Route 11/103).

V. September 2015 Monthly Reports:

- a. Chief's Office
- b. Investigations
- c. Patrol
- d. Communications
- e. Statistical Reports

Review and discussion of monthly reports included focus on Chief Scott's Code Enforcement assistance, Chief Scott's teaching of Constitutional Law class at Police Academy, status of Senate Bill 346 dealing with teacher applicant criminal records, the Drug Take Back event and the Department's Drug Take Back box procured through a grant with CVS, and the Planned Parenthood vandalism case. After review and

discussion Commissioner Courtemanche made a motion to accept the September 2015 monthly reports, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tremblay and all three Commissioners voted in favor of said motion.

VI. Correspondence: Thank you letter from Richards Free Library and letter from Stan Woodward was reviewed.

VII. Accreditation / Grants update: - See New Business -

VIII. Budget Update:

a. Police

b. 911

Overall percentages continue to track in an acceptable fashion. Chief Scott noted that a six month review will take place at the January meeting.

IX. Old Business: N/A

X. New Business:

- a. General Order # 517: Pretrial Identification Procedures: Review and discussion including explanation of double blind method of administering photo line-up. Inconsistencies were noted between paragraph IB and IIC as well as IIF and new language. After review and discussion Chief Scott will have changes made to correct inconsistencies and return for review at November meeting.

- b. Department Organization: Chief Scott briefed the Commission on plan to adjust Department organization to merge the Criminal Division and the Patrol Division into the Operations Division with four teams: Day Shift, Evening Shift, Midnight Shift and Investigations. Chief Scott presented amended organizational charts to help with explanation. Commission liked the concept and Chief Scott will present amended Organizational General Order at the November or December meeting.

- c. Curfew and Loitering Discussion: Chief Scott explained that the City Council requested a review of the curfew and loitering ordinances and that he would be providing said review at the October 28th Council meeting. Chief Scott noted that case law out of the First Circuit Federal Court has ruled that Curfew ordinances are unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable. Additionally, while there are no cases directly on point, the loitering statute likely would not survive a constitutional challenge.

At 6:57 pm Commissioner Raymond made a motion to go into non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3, II(a), the motion was seconded by Commissioner Courtemanche and all three Commissioners voted in favor of said motion.

XI. Public Session: The meeting returned to public session **at 7:08 pm**.

XII. Set tentative meeting(s) Schedule for October 2015 meeting: The November 2015 Police Commission meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 18th, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the Visitor's Center, 14 North Street.

XIII. Adjourn: **At 7:11 pm** Commissioner Courtemanche made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tremblay and all three Commissioners voted in favor of said motion.

Public Minutes

Prepared by:

Chief Scott