

POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES

November 5, 2021

2:00 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE: William Poling – Police Commissioner Chairman
Petar Dragojevic – Police Commissioner Secretary
Gene Guernsey – Police Commissioner
Tom Pawlak – Police Commissioner
Gene Ward – Police Commissioner
Konstantinos Nuses – Assistant Chief of Police
W. Luther Cuttino – Chief of Police
Michael Deppe – Commission Attorney

Commissioner Poling asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM I Motion was made to accept the minutes of the Police Commission Meeting dated October 8, 2021 as presented.

Commissioner Pawlak made a motion to accept October 8, 2021 minutes and was seconded by Commissioner Ward.

Commissioner Poling asked if there were any discussion.

Commissioner Poling stated all in favor signify by saying, “Aye.”
All replied, “Aye.”
Commissioner Poling stated, “Opposed, same sign.”

Hearing none Commissioner Poling stated, “Motion carries”.

ITEM II STATISTICS REPORT

The Chief of Police presented the September 2021 Monthly Statistical Reports; 2,507 Calls for Service; 88 Total Case Reports; 354 total Citations; 178 False Alarms.

ITEM III LETTERS OF CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Poling read the letter of Commendation from Lt. Berzac.

I would like to make you aware of incident #21ME21254 in which officers arrested two suspects after a pursuit involving a stolen vehicle. On 10/12/21 at 5:59pm, Sgt. Lance Schmidt #294, located a stolen Chevrolet Tahoe at the Luke gas station and attempted a traffic stop at 73rd Ave and Taft St. The Tahoe kept going and fled south on Taney Pl at a high rate of speed, disregarding the stop signs at 75th & 78th Ave. The driver of the Tahoe attempted to take the curve at 79th and Taney Pl, where the vehicle slid sideways and sideswiped the UPS truck that was traveling in the north bound lanes. The Tahoe spun completely around and crashed into mailboxes at 7918/7919 Taney Pl, coming to a stop. At this point, both the driver and passenger fled out to the vehicle into the yard of 7918 Taney Pl. Sgt. Schmidt immediately deployed K9 Goose and gave him the command to apprehend the suspects. K9 Goose apprehended the passenger in the back yard of 7918 Taney Pl. The driver fled past the same backyard and back up officers arrived to search the area. Officers Fultz #389, Bradley #412, and DeCero #410 arrived and placed the suspect into handcuffs. Cpl. Minchuk #279 and Officer Hensley #415 also arrived in the area to assist. Crown Point K9 Officer Wilkins and K9 Jack arrived and began a track with Officer DeCero #410 in an effort to find the suspect driver.

Lt. Rice #112 advised that a witness inside McDonalds at US 30 & Taney Pl said they saw a male white suspect run into the restaurant and then immediately exit again after asking to use a phone. A short time later Det Cpl. Buck #314 was in the area of US 30 and Whitcomb St. close to where the K9 track ended near a car dealership. Det. Buck observed a male fitting the suspect description across the grass median heading to the Speedway gas station at US 30 & Whitcomb St. The male attempted to enter a vehicle that pulled up and Det. Buck and other assisting officers detained the male. The suspect was charged with Level 6 Theft, Level 6 Resisting Law Enforcement and Misdemeanor Resisting. The other suspect was charged with Misdemeanor Resisting Law Enforcement.

Sgt. Schmidt's Patrol techniques, perseverance, and communication, along with Cpl. Buck's observations, and diligence led to the arrest of two suspects with extensive criminal histories. I believe that they should be recognized for their efforts and I am recommending that they be awarded a Level II Commendation. In addition, the great teamwork of Lt. Rice, Cpl. Minchuk, Ofc. Fultz, Ofc. DeCero, Ofc Bradley, Ofc. Hensley K9 Goose, and Crown Point Wilkins & K9 Jack assure the public that our officers are always ready, willing, and able to protect and serve.

Commissioner Dragojevic made a motion to accept the Level II Commendations for Sgt. Schmidt and Cpl. Buck, and letter in file for K9 Goose, Kt, Rice, Cpl. Minchuk, Ofc. Fultz, Ofc. DeCero, Ofc Bradley, and Ofc Hensley and was seconded by Commissioner Guernsey.

Commissioner Poling stated all in favor signify by saying, "Aye."
All replied, "Aye."

Commissioner Poling stated, "Opposed, same sign."

Hearing none Commissioner Poling stated, "Motion carries"

ITEM IV OLD BUSINESS

ITEM V NEW BUSINESS

Chief Cuttino presented the Eligibility list for Emergency Hire for the Position of Police Officer.

Commissioner Guernsey made a motion to ratify the Emergency Hire eligibility list for Position of Police Officers and was seconded by Commissioner Pawlak.

Commissioner Poling stated that the Eligibility list will expire in 1 year.

Commissioner Poling asked if there was any discussion.

Commissioner Poling requested that Chief Cuttino take a roll call vote.

Chief Cuttino took a roll call vote.

Commissioner Dragojevic, "Aye"
Commissioner Guernsey, "Aye"
Commissioner Poling, "Aye"
Commissioner Pawlak, "Aye"
Commissioner Ward, "Aye"

Commissioner Poling stated, "Vote is unanimous, and the motion carries."

Chief Cuttino presented a Conditional Offer of Employment to Andrew Germonperz and Khalil Buchanan.

Commissioner Guernsey made a motion to extend the Conditional Offer of Employment to Andrew Germonperz and Khalil Buchanan, and was seconded by Commissioner Pawlak.

Commissioner Poling asked if there was any discussion.

Commissioner Poling requested that Chief Cuttino take a roll call vote.

Chief Cuttino took a roll call vote.

Commissioner Dragojevic, "Aye"

Commissioner Guernsey, "Aye"

Commissioner Poling, "Aye"

Commissioner Pawlak, "Aye"

Commissioner Ward, "Aye"

Commissioner Poling stated, "Vote is unanimous, and the motion carries."

ITEM VI

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dragojevic made motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Ward.

Commissioner Poling stated all in favor signify by saying, "Aye."

All replied, "Aye."

Commissioner Poling stated, "Opposed, same sign."

Commissioner Poling stated, "Adjourn."

Commissioner Poling stated next meeting will be Friday November 19, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. and will be a Special Meeting.

Commissioner Poling stated the next regular meeting will be Friday December 3, 2021 at 2:00 P.M.

AS THERE WAS NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.