

Rutland City Police Commission
February 10, 2020

Present: Commissioners Tom Calcagni, Luther Brown, Chris Siliski, Tony Romeo and Chairman Sean Sargeant

Others Present: Chief Brian Kilcullen, Commanders Greg Sheldon, Matt Prouty and David Lachance

Chairman Sargeant calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm led by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Calcagni and seconded by Commissioner Siliski for approval of the January 13, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

Introduction/Recognition of Police Department Members

Probationary Police Officer Tyler Taverse is sworn in as Officer Taverse.
Probationary Police Officer Delehanty is sworn in as Officer Delehanty.

Public Comment

Commissioner Siliski indicates he has been contacted by Karen Rens and he has responded with a carbon copy to Chairman Sargeant and Chief Kilcullen. Chief Kilcullen reports that an initiative was completed from January 16 to February 10 with 19 initiatives on 19 separate days to observe crosswalks on Merchants Row, Center St, West St, and Merchants and Wales Street. In that time period, 31 staff hours were dedicated to such initiative. After observing 36 pedestrian and 8 vehicle violations, 24 warnings were issued. Chief Kilcullen indicates that he wants to focus on education. It was reiterated that pedestrians ONLY have the Right of Way when they are crossing in a crosswalk. Chief Kilcullen requests that Mayor Allaire put together a committee to make some suggestions on what can be done, as there is a problem with the environmental design. Hopefully they can come up with some ideas for visibility and create a line and see what the board decides. With reference to the parking near the Bardwell on Washington St, Chief Kilcullen recommends that the signage be corrected before they can actually enforce parking as signs are brown and are parallel to the curb so you can't see them coming down the hill and he wants to increase compliance with having the correct signs up. Discussions were had with reference to a joint meeting with the Board of Aldermen. Chairman Sargeant will get a hold of Public Safety (DPW).

Communication from Union

None - Elias Anderson is now the Union President.

Commander's Report

Commander Sheldon indicates that the Street Crimes Unit is going well and the officers are getting their rhythm; Employee Evaluations for the Patrol Division are ongoing; De-escalation Training anticipated to be done by Cpl Plemmons and Commander Sheldon for the Department in March; Patrols at Westridge in the Howe Center and the downtown area are going well; Patrol is getting back on track, as several have been out sick for more than 2 days; the two trainees are doing well and both are in Phase 2 and the third phase will begin in March; a group of 7 have completed the Peer Support Training with 9 being total trained including Sgt. Lorman and Ryan Brady; Officer Delehanty will be completing brief videos for the downtown traffic stuff and employee PSA's for downtown pedestrians with help from the Stafford Center for PEG TV; Most Wanted is being aired now on PEG TV; Leadership Training for Sergeants and Corporals are going well.

Commander Lachance reports that there was a surge last week in the news whereas between 19 federal agents, 7 State and RPD took 261 grams of crack; 140 grams of heroin, a lot of fentanyl and firearms off the streets.

There is a candidate in background now for the Custodian Evidence position; there will be four taking the VPA test tomorrow.

Commander Prouty indicates that it has been a busy month. Starting with skating for K-2 at Giorgetti Park with 150 cups of Hot Chocolate and Donuts being provided, outperforming the Fire Department; tomorrow is the sledding for the Winter Carnival and the Community Response Team will be handing out beverages; Chief Kilcullen spoke at the event by the Mentor Connector for the VT Youth Project; Project Vision is in the strategic planning process until May; A survey was sent out on the list server with 124 responses being received with good feedback. The data has been processed and will be revealed at the next Project Vision meeting by Joan Gamble; we were requested to speak at a night class at Stafford and we spoke about Project Vision, Social Work, Caregivers and Law Enforcement with positive feedback from that. Discussions continue about the charter and ordinance for issuing tickets for the pedestrian piece for an appropriate fine amount for violations.

Mapping Update -

Analyst Brad GoodHale reports 2020 the 3Peat call volume for the first month (YTD) is at 15.5%.

2019 year end - shows crimes 2013-2018 comparison:

Robbery; 6 year average 7 ended 2019 with 6

Aggravated Assault; 6 year average was 52 with 49 in 2019
Burglary - force; 70 6 year average and down to 46 for 2019
Burglary - non force; 6 year average 40 and down to 21 for 2019
Larceny (shoplifting); 6 year average 149 and down to 133 for 2019
Larceny (all other); 6 year average 362 and down to 212 for 2019

Analyst GoodHale indicates as we move forward reporting will start at 2014 and will be hitting on what we can do to reduce crime.

Next he reports thru January 31 the YTD comparison.

A snapshot for 2019 Motor Vehicle Tickets and Warnings is shown:

1217 warnings issued and of those municipal ordinances:

Speed zone - 91 city and 10 downtown
Obedience required to traffic - 15 city and 10 downtown
Obedience to traffic controls - 61 city and 32 in downtown
Duty to stop at a stop sign - 100 city and 3 in downtown

979 tickets citywide written and of those municipal ordinances:

Speed zone - 129 city and 19 downtown
Obedience required to traffic - 8 city and 4 downtown
Obedience to traffic controls - 25 city and 13 downtown
Duty to stop at a stop - 30 city and 1 downtown

DDACTS showing 3rd and 4th quarters for 2019 - showing map of the Northwest and showing clustering for 3rd quarter with patrols and then he looks at October to December showing 3 agg assaults in Zone 1.

Analyst GoodHale reports the following: burglary clusters close in location but not in time, a burglary cluster near the plaza happened in a 4 day period; tracking of the 2020 Aggravated assaults; 2019 thefts in Sector 1 and Sector 2 in the plaza to include Price Chopper and Walmart; Vandalisms are being looked at, as they are highly concentrated in Zone 1; reporting needles and overdoses show 5 overdoses for this year; they will be reassessing DDACTs and how they are approaching it; Sector 3 is becoming the highest DDACT zone; of the call volume 15 to 17% is the crime volume

Budget report

58 and a 1/3 through the year at 59% of the operating budget, not anticipating the 3 years of raises along with retroactive pay. There have been some system glitches whereas the traffic fines was showing zero and MaryKay had to look into that with the VT Judicial Bureau.

Chief's report

- 1/14 - Community and Economic Development met where pedestrian safety was addressed. The Robotic Club put together a presentation.
- 1/15 - Castleton University did a presentation on the VT Youth Project
- 1/17 - Traffic Safety meeting
- 1/23 - Human Rights Commission voted 4-1 in favor of RPD that there were no reasonable grounds that RPD violated an individuals rights
- 1/28 - Vicious dog hearing
- 1/31 - Presentation at City Hall by AOT on driverless cars, going around the state for a test site

Commander Prouty and SRO Laguardia attended the Thursday basketball with six kids and a teacher.

Friday was the press conference surge announcement and arrests were announced.

Coming up next week is the Winterfest. Center Street will be closed for sledding on Tuesday.

Personnel movement since Gorruso's retirement as of 1/10, Cpl. Eric Morgano, Det. Sean Maguire and Det Jimmy Plakas (with date to be determined), to be assigned to BCI.

Officer Warfle resigned as of 1/31/20.

The applicant for the Evidence Tech opening is in background.

Training

1/14 to 17 - Three attended the Field Training Officer School at the VT Police Academy

Upcoming training

Det Ashe assigned to CFAC is attending a Child Investigation class in Rhode Island

5/11 and 12 - Officers Billings and Dumas will be attending the ARIDE Training
Det Rosario with the Street Crimes Unit will attend a Tactical Debriefing Class by counter drug unit, but will need to get him to IL

Commissioner Romeo makes a motion at 7:06 under Title 1 Chapter 5, Subchapter 2, Section 313 4a, disciplinary or dismissal action of a public officer or employee, and seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion passed 5-0.

Executive session

The executive session began, present with police commission members and Chief Kilcullen to discuss matters that if disclosed publicly at this time, could place the City, the Department or an employee of the department at risk. Exited executive session at 19:23.

Motion made by Commissioner Calcagni and seconded by Commissioner Brown to adjourn. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 19:25.

Submitted by:

Nancy Manning

cc: Chief Brian Kilcullen
Mayor David Allaire
Police Commission
City Clerk Henry Heck
Board of Aldermen
Union President Elias Anderson

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March 2020

Attendance and typing meeting minutes for the Rutland City Police Commission
on February 10, 2020

\$85.00