

Rutland City Police Commission
April 14, 2014

Present: Chairman Larry Jensen, Vice Chairman Thomas Calcagni, Commissioners Dr. Luther Brown, Sean Sargeant

Not Present: Michelle Fairbrother

Others Present: Captain Scott Tucker, Lt. Kevin Geno, Commander David Covell

Call to order by Chairman Jensen on 6:00pm

Chief Baker acknowledges Crime Analyst Brad GoodHale who was promoted from Emergency Communication Operator of 7 years. Chief Baker indicates that he is blown away as to what Brad has accomplished in 8 weeks on the job.

Introduction/recognition of Police Department Members

Chief Baker gives a handout of the Corporal Promotion Ceremony. Cpl. Tim Tuttle is not present at this meeting due to personal reasons. Chief Baker indicates you won't find anyone more grounded in community policing than Cpl. Tuttle. Chief indicates that he has never heard a complaint against Cpl. Tuttle. Chief Baker recognizes Misty Klementowski who has completed Probation. ACO Tim Jones is in an animal control training as of March 2, 2014. Chief Baker introduces and swears in Probationary Police Officer Ryan Ashe giving a little background and indicating that he fit's the value system of the Rutland City Police Department.

Motion made by Commissioner Sargeant and seconded by Commissioner Brown to approve the March 17, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Public Comment

City resident, Ed Matthews is present and wants to address child support issues he is having with New York and Vermont. He indicates that he believes it is extortion that Vermont wants \$74,000 to pay \$53,000 due New York. Discussions held. Chief Baker will send a letter to document that his circumstances are not a criminal matter, as he has already been told by two people of the department.

Commissioner Sargeant indicates that he has received a call from Nicole Bretton with reference to the strategy of the police department and is feeling like nothing has changed in the last 2 ½ years through the efforts of the Vision project. He encouraged her to come in to express her frustrations. Discussions held. Chief Baker will reach out to her. Commissioner Brown indicates that he believes that the department is making more arrests and seizing more heroin than anyone in the State.

Mapping Presentation

Repeat Incidents 3/23/14 to 4/5/14

The nature of the calls is starting to change. The first area addressed is Walmart, whereas the strategy is to cut down on the thefts and they have been reduced to two with other calls including intoxicated person, citizen disputes, trespassing, juvenile problems, suspicious person and disorderly conducts.

Some of the other areas of concern as reported are: 102 West St, Transit Center. We are starting to do calls of drug activity there. Ray Lamoria is working there part time. A new strategy, similar to what we are doing in the Walmart Plaza; 110 Park Ave; 129 Grove St; 135 Dorr Dr; 160 Allen St/RRMC; 38 Shopping Plaza; 46 Elm St; 60 Library Ave; and 62 Pine St., to include calls of restraining orders, unlawful mischief, suspicious person/circumstances. Chief Baker indicates that they are doing knock and talks in the area of 77 School Street and Traverse Place, which are addresses that keep coming up on the mapping program. 136 bags of heroin has been seized. A

level of trust has been built up within the community and as we are responding to every call. They continue to look at any patterns that are developing. The department is taking a serious look at problem landlords and how they are contributing to the patterns. Discussions are ongoing with Federal Partners to use federal resources to go from there.

The program for Drug Intervention Program strategy stats are shown. The four primary goals of DMI are addressed. Discussions held.

In comparing quality of life crimes 2012 to 2013, they are down 8%. Family/Juvenile/Restraining order violations are up 7.6%, Vagrancy/Minor liquor incident are down almost 15%, DUIs are up 9.3%. Non aggravated assaults are up 32.5%. Possession of regulated drugs increased 21.7%. The target strategies are working well with the proactive enforcement.

Sergeant's Report

Sgt. Tarbell addresses the commissioners as to what is going on in BCI. With the help of Commander Covell, the lab audit is being done and they are clearing out evidence of cases that have already been adjudicated. They are working on the background for the communications operator and will have complete within the week. The investigation is continuing on the "grow house" on East St. They are concentrating on houses in the city that are selling under \$30,000.

There is a new initiative upstairs working with Bonnie from VCIC with reference to the sex offender registry and arresting non compliance offenders. The work and cooperation between probation and parole with the city police is going very well, as they are a wealth of knowledge.

Including a seminar hosted by the DEA on sex trafficking and drugs, they are trying to get a better handle on forfeitures and reeducating our officers. They are doing a good job getting drugs and drug money.

Crime analyst report

Brad GoodHale addresses the board. He is working on stats for strategic purposes with Commander Dave Covell and Max Sleuter. He indicates he has taken a deep dive into the reports and he then passes information on as to names, issues and information. He gives a synopsis of what he has done to include: monitoring social media, assess certain family members (intel) for security purposes for court and sharing info with the sheriff's dept, writing a privacy policy for federal codes of regulations, attending multi state informational meetings and working on building relationships. Crime mapping to look for multiple incidents and make sure it meets criteria to refer to others. Rapid intervention specialist to make sure incidents are properly referred to our vision partners. Compiling and sharing information for federal, state and law enforcement partners with county wide information. Commissioner Calcagni indicates that the quality of information now being reported in so much stronger and more informative than in the past.

Chief indicates he would like to add that Sgt. Sheldon and Prouty, going back to college for their degrees, prior credit program. The department is concentrating on following up with the sex offender registry program and doing checks on them to make sure they are complying with the sex offender registry and living where they have reported.

Budget report

Chief Baker indicates we stand at 20.6% left in the budget and 70.18% has been spent. There are several items over; overtime, professional service/resign, computer fees. The vehicle line will be resolved by the end of they are with the encumbered equipment. Chief Baker indicates he needs to take a closer look at the machinery equipment line. Discussions held.

There are 38 sworn positions filled with 2 vacancies. There are 2 dispatcher vacancies with one

person in background. The senior staffing meeting will have a plan within a few weeks to do interviewing to fill the 2 vacancies.

It is National Telecommunications week and the Sergeants have been authorized to do something for the communications operators on each shift for their contributions.

Project Vision overview

Other than what Brad has reported on, the department is working on a goal of reducing burglaries by 50%. They are drilling down in neighborhoods and streets and doing footwork on getting the word out of doing a better job of securing properties. Captain Tucker is working with Deb Hall on a homeless project as part of project Vision.

A group of Vision partners went to the State House on Friday morning. There are 2 cubicles left upstairs to be filled. The Rutland Mental Health piece is working extremely well, therefore, they will be bringing in a second person for crisis intervention work. A presentation will be done for feedback of the final piece of 5/15/14 by Mary Kennedy and David Kennedy, the brain child of the DMI program. Chief Baker will brief the commissioners in June.

Chief Baker has accepted a position in the Boys and Girls Club.

There is a special coming out on 20/20 in May and that is going to be about drugs in Vermont. Discussion held as to the heroin situation in the country. New England is being targeted as a market to unload heroin. Colonel Lesperance and Chief Sherling have been invited to Washington DC to address the criminal justice issues in the country to be a part of a presentation on heroin and challenges facing rural America.

Training

CO Lynn Gallipo - training update on child protection seats. Sgt. Prouty is involved in a 3 days crime assessment school. POs Ryan Ashe and Harvey are attending a lot of training for part time certified qualifications. Sgt. Sheldon and Chief Baker will be attending the Chief's Conference that is done in Vermont every year. Lt. Geno and Captain Tucker to attend the National Academy. Sgt. Tarbell to go to Boston for a seminar. SRO Green is concentrating on bullying in schools.

Motion made by Commissioner Sargeant and seconded by Commissioner Calcagni to adjourn at 8:12pm to go into executive session. Motion passed.

Submitted by:

Nancy Manning

Cc: Rutland Police Commission
Chief James Baker
Captain Scott Tucker
Lt. Kevin E. Geno
Mayor Chris Louras
City Clerk Henry Heck
Board of Aldermen
Union President Lynn Gallipo