

**Rutland City Police Commission  
December 12, 2022**

Present: Chairman Sean Sargeant, Commissioners Tony Romeo and Peg Flory.

Also attending: Chief Kilcullen, Commanders Sam Delpha and Greg Sheldon, Crime Analyst Nathan Thibodeau, CRS Matt Prouty, Mayor Allaire, Ryan Brady, Officer Tavares, Pat Hunter and Patty Lancaster.

Call to order by Chairman Sargeant at 6:01 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Flory moved to approve the minutes of November 14, 2022. Commissioner Romeo seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**Introduction/Recognition of Police Department Members**

Chief Kilcullen reported that on Friday he met with an officer candidate who had high praise for the hiring process and said it was the reason he stayed with Rutland, as opposed to the other departments with who he had applied. He was appreciative of how responsive everyone was. This candidate will be starting with the RPD on January 30.

Chief Kilcullen administered the Cpl. oath to Officer Tyler Tavares. He also announced the retirement of Commander Greg Sheldon effective Jan. 6, 2023.

**Public Comment**

Chairman Sargeant discussed the VT Digger article written by Ethan Weinstein regarding a video of a theft from Home Depot. Chairman Sargeant called Mr. Weinstein to provide him with data because the article reported on a "perception" of rising crime in Rutland. The information he forwarded supported a 300% increase in retail theft and there is a 400% increase in larceny from a building. Mr. Weinstein is going to do another article for Wednesday. Pat Hunter said she was concerned with how Project VISION was referenced in the original article. Chairman Sargeant said he would give Mr. Weinstein her contact information.

**Commanders' Report**

Commander Sheldon said he is working with Rep. Burditt of the House Judiciary Committee to set a meeting in Rutland to discuss ongoing issues. He will let the Commission know when the meeting is set. Commissioner Flory suggested inviting Sen. Dick Sears who lives in Bennington. Chairman Sargeant said the meeting is to let the Legislature know that what they do affects chaos in the community. Mayor Allaire said the Legislature is aware, but have a different view of how to fix the issues.

Commander Delpha said there are 4 full-time candidates in the next class and 4-5 applicants for the March part-time class. The next full-time class will be in August. He reported that applicants are steadily increasing. Chief Kilcullen discussed the unique rules for Vermont that may influence those who are interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement.

### **Mapping Update**

Nate Thibodeau distributed both the information requested regarding the CRS role and the End of Month Report for October. He presented the information regarding the CRS role saying that the cases are characterized as Primary, Assist and Proactive. The cases were then categorized into 6 categories to better assess what the CRS is handling. The information also included number of calls per day and average call comparison. Commissioner Flory asked why were CRS calls down in November. Nate said that was due to an increase in actual crimes. He also said Dispatch was emailed in November a reminder to assign calls to the CRS. Chief Kilcullen explained that the CRS is spending more time on calls for housing needs. Matt explained that not everything is non-criminal and does require an officer to deescalate the situation. Matt added that for the week of Dec. 1-7 there were additional calls after the Sgts were reminded to assign NCI calls to the CRS. Matt discussed holding non-emergency calls for him.

Nate presented the mapping update with the disclaimer that he and Nora are meeting with Valcour tomorrow to work stuff out with the software. He is entering information for Phase II and should be done by the end of the year. The call volume from October to November decreased, but increased 19% when comparing the previous years in November. Call volume surface data for November showed an increase in traffic and property crimes.

Nate continued with the November 2022 comparison saying: Homicide in 2021 was 1, 6 year average 0 and 2 in 2022. Robbery 2021- 18, five-year avg.-8.2, 2022-21, Aggravated Assault 2021 -38, five-year avg.-43 2022-57, Burglary 2021 – 88, five-year avg.- 66, 2022-69. He continued with robbery information 2022-21, last year 18 and 2022 - 21. Location type mainly convenience stores and as of December there were 3 robberies in 12 days. The ID rate is 71% and 100% of POI are known users. Larceny automobile 2021-36 five-year avg.- 17.6 2022-69, larceny from motor vehicle 2021-128 five-year avg.- 73 2022-303 (approximately 50 of the 303 are auto parts stolen or registration sticker), larceny from buildings 2021-37 five-year avg.- 41 2022 - 158. Retail theft 2021- 117 five-year avg.- 108.6 2022-335. The method is 53% unlocked with keys in the car and 45% extended use and 2% forced entry.

Nate continued with Guns, Drugs and Money saying that the year to date drug overdose comparison is currently at 95 with 84% non-fatal and 10 fatalities. Commissioner Flory asked if Narcan was used with the non-fatals. Nate said about 55% of the cases received Narcan. Nate reported that BCI has completed 9 operations this year that led

to the arrest of 25 individuals, 37 ounces of drugs seized, \$37,500 cash and 8 guns off the street.

### **Budget Report**

Chief Kilcullen reported that 5 months into this year's budget or 41.67%, expenses are at 38.58%.

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Kilcullen reported he and members of the City continue to meet with the schools regarding the Portrait of a Student project. On Nov. 15 there was a breakfast for the officers prepared by the students from the Allen Street school and there was a vicious dog hearing. On Nov 16 he met with the attorney on a Human Rights Commission complaint; on Nov. 17 met with Efficiency VT regarding the RFP for temperature controls and the heat pump was installed in Dispatch. Also, on Nov. 17 he and Commander Sheldon met with Rutland Mental Health regarding the State's intention to contract for crisis work to be run through a single organization and local agencies are planning to bid on that and the RPD could lose our in-house clinician. On Nov. 17 the Charter & Ordinance committee met to address the noise ordinance. On Nov. 18 there was a PBA appreciation night at Stonehedge Indoor Golf. Brianna Dyer was hired in Dispatch on Nov. 27. On Nov. 28 the Public Safety Committee recommend that the RPD FY24 budget as presented be forwarded to the full Board for action on Thursday Dec. 15. On Nov 29, he met with the Commissioner of Public Safety and staff to discuss some analytical products that they are producing to identify crime hot spots and how to follow up on those hot spots. Chief Kilcullen said it's time to implement the drug mark intervention model again and requesting the significant resources to do so. The City hosted a stress seminar on Dec. 1 and on Dec. 6 he met with DAIL the office of Disabilities Aging and Independent Living regarding an individual in custody of DAIL. On Dec. 8 next year assignments effective January 1 were made. On Dec. 11 Misty Klementowski tendered her resignation. There was a meeting today with Homeland Investigations and the US Attorney on the status of the ongoing task force approach to investigations. In November, December and January employees are participating in a grow a beard fundraiser for Camp Ta-Kum-Ta.

### **Trainings**

- Nov. 2 – School Resource Officer attended a VT School Safety Conference in Burlington.
- Nov. 15-17 - Officer Rosario attended Recovery Court Conference in Danvers, Mass.
- Dec. 1 – Use of Force and Tactics for remainder of sworn officers
- Upcoming – Officer Blanchard will attend Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement Training (ARIDE)
- Upcoming – Officer Rice attending Police Recruitment Training for 2023
- Dec. 27-29 – Training for body worn camera for the entire department
- Jan. 17-20 – Officer Blanchard will attend Field Officer Training Session
- Feb. 6-10 – Cpls. Rose and Tavares will attend "LEEDA" leadership training

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Flory moved to adjourn. Commissioner Romeo seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting called to a close at 6:57 pm.

Submitted by: Barbara Spaulding

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