

LOWELL METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSION
September 11, 2014

The Lowell Metropolitan Police Commission met in regular session on September 11, 2014 at the Lowell Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

I. Roll Call

Commissioner Keith Kilmer, present
Commissioner Sharon Patterson, present
Commissioner John Piper, present
Commissioner Ray Borchert, absent
Commissioner Michael Mears, present
Chief Erik Matson, present
Attorney Nicole Bennett, present

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a brief moment of silence.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14th Commission meeting seconded by Commissioner Mears. 4 ayes, motion passed.

V. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/EXPENDITURES

Commissioner Mears made a motion to approve the August Claims/Expenditures, seconded by Commissioner Piper. 4 ayes, motion passed.

VI. CHIEF'S REPORT AND THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES OR MEMBERS

Chief Matson informed the Commission that the Labor Day Weekend went very well. He thanked the Lowell Police Department, Cedar Lake Police Department, Crown Point Police Department, Lake County Police Department and the State Police for their assistance during this weekend.

Chief Matson stated that the purchase of the garage door remotes and sensors has been approved and installation will begin next week.

Chief Matson stated the Town Council has signed the MOU with the Tri Creek School Corporation and Officer Burkus has started as the Town Resource Officer. Chief also stated that he spoke with Clerk Treasurer Walters about the reverted funds that were discussed at the August Commission meeting. Clerk Walters stated that the money can not be placed in a reverting fund because it is going toward a salary and must be placed in that part of the budget.

Chief Matson requested that the Commission approve the Mobile Data Terminal Policy and the Information Technology Resources Policy to be added to the S.O.P.'s. He stated the policies have been reviewed by Attorney Bennett. Chief Matson explained that the policies purpose is to safeguard against the Officers using the equipment improperly, as

well as keeping the computers up to date. The policies also give guidelines on what to do if the computers go down.

Chief Matson advised the Commission that Reserve Officer Rex Ibarra has resigned his position as a Reserve Officer after 4 years of dedicated service. Officer Ibarra has been hired by the Lake County Sheriff's Department to be a full time Officer. Chief Matson stated that Officer Ibarra was in charge of monitoring the maintenance of the Pool cars and assisted with instructing defensive tactics. He further stated that Officer Ibarra will be greatly missed and the Lowell Police Department wishes him the best of luck.

Chief Matson stated that since the Reserve Program started in 2006, 9 Reserve Officers have been hired into full time Officer positions either with the Lowell Police Department or other agencies.

Commissioner Patterson asked if there was ever any resolution to the issue of the jurisdiction problem with the Tri Creek MOU. Chief Matson stated that he was told at the last Town Council meeting that the jurisdiction is the entire five schools of the Tri Creek School Corporation and that there was no limit put on it. Chief also stated that the agreement was written up this way and no changes have been made to the agreement, so the agreement will be followed the way it was written. President Kilmer stated that Officer Burkus was doing a great job as the resource Officer. Chief Matson replied that Officer Burkus keeps other Officers from having to go to the schools often, deterring things from going wrong, and giving the teachers a direct line to someone who can come and handle problems. Commissioner Patterson asked how Officer Burkus is splitting his time. Chief Matson stated that there is no definite set schedule, but that Officer Burkus is splitting his time between the schools, going where he is needed, while also working the streets.

VII. INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

There were none.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Piper made a motion to approve the Mobile Data Terminal Policy, seconded by Commissioner Patterson. 4 ayes, motion passed.

Commissioner Patterson made a motion to approve the Information Technology Resources Policy, seconded by Commissioner Piper. 4 ayes, motion passed.

Commissioner Mears asked in reference to the pornography part of the policy, if an Officer is working a sex crimes case, would the policy allow the Officer to access such sites if a case would lead them there in an investigation. Chief Matson stated that there is an exception to this policy for department work, found in the beginning of the policy.

Commissioner Patterson made a motion to approve the Resignation of Reserve Officer Rex Ibarra, seconded by Commissioner Mears. 4 Ayes, motion passed. President Kilmer stated that the Commission would like to recognize the hard work Officer Ibarra has done for the Lowell Police Department and wish him well. Chief Matson stated that this has

been a long time coming for Officer Ibarra and the Lowell Police Department would have hired him, except for the age limit policy.

X. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, AND COMMUNICATIONS

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Matson stated that Officer Nickolaus Schultz's wake and funeral will be at the Radisson Hotel on Sunday and Monday and informed the Commission of the plan for the burial in Lowell. Chief Matson stated that Officer Schultz was born and raised in Lowell and that he was an intern for Lowell. The Chief further stated that Officer Schultz was a great person, who was always positive, and he will be sorely missed.

President Kilmer commended Chief Matson on a job well done in handling the loss of Officer Schultz.

The next Commission meeting will be October 9th at 8:00.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Piper made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mears. 4 ayes, motion passed.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Keith Kilmer, President

John Piper, Secretary