

**PORTER POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2005**

The Porter Police Commission was called to order at 5:30 pm. In attendance were: William Donley, President; Linda Hodges, Vice President; Commissioners Brian Dahlin, Art Heredia and Karen Pisowicz, Assistant Police Chief James Menn. Liaison Jennifer Granat was absent.

Linda Hodges made a motion to accept the February 9, 2005 minutes. Art Heredia seconded. Motion carried.

It was agreed that a motion need not be made for accepting the monthly reports. Karen Pisowicz wanted to know what are off-duty assists. Asst. Chief Menn explained off-duty assists were when an officer comes across an accident or another officer that might need help. Brian Dahlin asked if the monthly reports could have more detail to be able to compare with previous months. This will probably be easier to do when the new software is in operation. Dahlin also stated other departments not only show citations issued but list the Indiana Code. Menn stated the new software will be installed and running once the police car computers are included. This is delayed until the department is linked with Porter County.

Art Heredia asked that the training hours be more specific as to what type of training. Dahlin also requested the officers ~~log in~~ ^{LOG IN TO LOGGING} their duty miles with a breakdown for each car, on duty and off duty. The department is getting prices for two new vehicles at this time. It is possible that several new vehicles will be needed at about the same time and the Town Council needs to be alerted regarding budget.

Under Old Business, the Curfew Ordinance will be tabled until Indianapolis can come up with an ordinance that will be constitutional.

Under New Business Brian Dahlin made a motion to change the Commission meeting day and time to the third Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Karen Pisowicz seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Newspapers will be notified.

Dahlin reported on his meeting with Schererville Police Department which gave him a lot of good information and a lot of it had to do with reports. He will also keep attending their meetings and will report back to the Commission. He also met with Michigan City which doesn't have a Commission but does have a 3 member Civil Commission. William Donley asked if the Commission should have a series of public workshops. It was agreed that this would be a good idea after Dahlin gets more information. Dahlin's reports will be put on future agendas under Old Business.

Linda Hodges asked if Dahlin and/or Heredia were able to meet with Lt. Ed Surgener on the General Orders. Heredia said he met with Surgener and Officer Torok and they are making headway. He will bring the changes to the Commission.

They will also be looking at standardization of weapons carried by the officers.

Linda Hodges brought up the use of Tasers and would like the Commission to look into the pros and cons of Taser use. Heredia said this would be addressed in the General Orders. The police have 3 Tasers with 2 trained officers. ^{BRIAN DAHLIN BROUGHT UP} Questions ~~arose~~ regarding liability to the Police Department and/or the Town. Linda Hodges will check with Liaison Jennifer Granat regarding liability.

Brian Dahlin asked if monthly reports and draft of the minutes be placed in the Commission box at the Police Station the Saturday before the Tuesday meeting. Hodges asked Dahlin to report back the advantages and/or disadvantages to Schererville and Michigan City reports. Heredia asked about Officer of the Month and Officer of the Year. Heredia discussed with the Police Chief having credentials and business cards.

Assistant Chief Menn reminded the Commission that they are short handed without a clerk. If the Commission could hold off on more detailed reports until the new software is working.

William Donley reported that the new grant writer has been hired and will be moving very shortly to Kouts and is anxious the start work.

Menn would like a letter sent to the Highway Commission to do another study of the traffic and Waverly Road and Highway 20. According to the department there have been several left-hand turn accidents at this intersection. It was agreed that a letter should be sent.

Meeting adjourned 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Newman, secretary

Minutes approved, ^{AS CORRECTED} this 19 day of APRIL, 2005

William Donley
William Donley, President

Linda Hodges
Linda Hodges, Vice President

Brian Dahlin
Brian Dahlin, Commissioner

Art Heredia
Art Heredia, Commissioner

Karen Pisowicz
Karen Pisowicz, Commissioner