

PORTER POLICE COMMISSION

MINUTES

December 8, 2004

The Porter Police Commission meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were Chad Brooks, President; William Donley, Vice-President, Linda Hodges, Commissioner and Acting Police Chief, James Menn. Sandi Boothe was not in attendance.

Linda Hodges made a motion to accept the November 30, 2004 Special Meeting Minutes. William Donley seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Acting Chief Menn gave the November 2004 monthly report. Linda Hodges asked what is the difference between harassment and intimidation. She also noted that number of miles driven on and off duty was not on the back of the report. Acting Chief Menn stated he would see that it was on next month's report. Jen Granat asked about the number of animal control calls compared to October. The report for October was not available. William Donley made a motion to accept the November report. Linda Hodges seconded. Carried 3-0.

Under Old Business, the Commissioners have yet to hear from Attorney Hollenbeck regarding the status of the Curfew Ordinance. Rita was instructed to call the attorney regarding this ordinance.

Regarding the Alarm Ordinance, the grace period on alarm systems has been inserted into the Ordinance. Linda Hodges made a motion to accept the Alarm Ordinance with the provision on the grace period and send it to the Town Council. William Donley seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Acting Chief Menn pulled down the posting for a new police chief this afternoon. Chad Brooks opened the listing and passed it to the other Commissioners and then read it to the audience. The only response was from James Spanier. Mr. Brooks then mentioned that the Commissioners had received one applicant from the last meeting and one applicant since the last meeting. Mr. Donley noted that we had an agreement to go in house at this time. After discussion with was decided to hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Mr. Spanier will be notified. William Donley made a motion that a special public meeting be held on Thursday, December 16, 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Linda Hodges seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Under New Business, Mr. Menn read a resignation letter from Eric Moore. This led to a discussion on salaries for the various ranks of officers.

Acting Chief Menn would like the Commissioners to speak with the Town Council to add more part time officers. William Donley made a motion to accept Mr. Menn's recommendations. Linda Hodges seconded. After a lengthy discussions, the motion carried 2-1 with Linda Hodges voting no.

In discussing Eric Moore's resignation it was determined that the Commissioners advertise for new recruits. Linda Hodges made a motion to advertise and to recruit more officers for potential full-time employees. William Donley seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Menn then said, just for the record, he would like to thank Cpl. Moore for his exceptional work while he was employed by our department.

Mr. Menn then discussed a \$25,000 grant through Representative Peter Visclosky's office to purchase seven laptops for squad cars and recording device for our telephone system and software. This is a project that John Lane worked vigorously on and total cost is \$31,247.64 with the Town's match on that of \$6,249.52. Mr. Menn would personally like to thank Visclosky's office for the time put in to help the police department to achieve this grant. Mr. Menn stated these funds will be available in 2005. William Sexton stated the Town Council will make it work. "We will to what's necessary to make it happen."

Continuing, Mr. Menn has completed the departments "wish list".

1. Department is in dire need of a new copy machine and fax machine. This money could possibly come out of the Building Fund.
2. Two patrol vehicles
3. Computers are close to 5 years old or better. Asking for 10 desk top computers and 10 digital cameras.
4. Clerk's position possibly from within which would lead to needing a full-time dispatcher Either a clerk or a full-time dispatcher is his request.

Mr. Menn also brought up the fact that Dispatcher Mary Lane, Dispatcher Diane Kranz and Dispatcher Betty Scott all attended IDEX Coordinators school. All dispatchers are certified and up to date.

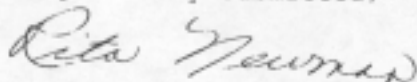
During Audience Participation, William Sexton asked where we were regarding the new software. "It's in the mail" replied Mr. Menn. The Council approved it and Mr. Menn stated he thought that John Lane thought that a member of the Council had to sign the contract. But Mr. Menn stated that after he read it he signed it and it's on it's way.

Jennifer Klug also asked about part-time officers doing some of the patrolling that full-time officers do.

Mr. Menn had one more thing to bring up. He gave everyone a copy of the Ordinance 2004-18 passed by the Council. William Donley asked President Granat when Commissioners would be appointed. She stated it would be January 4, 2005.

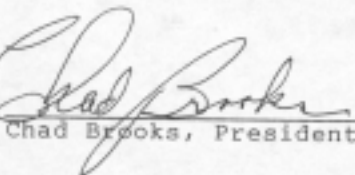
Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

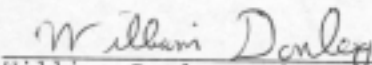


Rita Newman, secretary

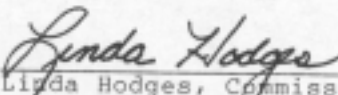
Minutes approved this 16 day of Dec., 2004



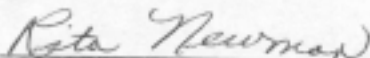
Chad Brooks, President



William Donley, Vice-President



Linda Hodges, Commissioner

Attest: 
Rita Newman

(Note: Tape #1 did not record. Tape #2 starts during part-time officer discussion. Rest of meeting is recorded.) R N,