

July 30, 2020

The Nashua Police Commission held public meeting on Thursday, July 30, 2020, at the Nashua Police Department.

Members present:

Commissioner James R. Tollner, Chairman
Commissioner Nicholas Dahl, Clerk
Commissioner Matthew Plante
Chief Michael Carignan
Deputy Chief James Testaverde
Deputy Chief Kevin Rourke
Karen Smith, NPD Business Manager (not in attendance)
Kathy Breslin, Administrative Project Specialist (acting as Recording Secretary)

Others Attending the Public Session:

Aldermanic Liaison Lori Wilshire (not in attendance)
Aldermanic Liaison Richard Dowd

PUBLIC SESSION

Commissioner Tollner called the meeting to order at 7:32 am. Roll call taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- June 22, 2020

MOTION: Commissioner Plante made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2020 meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tollner. All in favor.

BUDGET:

Business Manager Karen Smith provided the Commissioners with the following reports:

FY2021 Budget Report:

A copy of the FY2021 Budget report was provided.

FY2020 Expenditure Report:

The FY2020 fiscal year will not be closed out until late August. A clean report will be provided at the next Commissioners meeting.

FY2021 Revenue Report:

A copy of the FY2021 Revenue Report was provided.

FY2020 Monthly Overtime Tracking by Specific Case Number or Significant Occurrence:

A copy of the report was provided. The month of June included \$112,000 of overtime, of which \$86,000 was due to the Black Lives Matter Vigil on 6/6 and the assistance provided to Manchester for their vigil held on 6/2.

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner made a motion to accept the budget reports. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dahl. All in favor.

ACTIVITY REPORT:

Deputy Chief Kevin Rourke reported the following:

There has been an increase in the noise complaints, especially in the downtown area with the outside dining. We have recently partnered with the NH State Police to address this problem. This is an advantage for two reasons. It helps us with the Accreditation standard that requires us to work with outside agencies and with having more officers to cover the area. The NPD used to have decimeters to read the noise levels on vehicles, but they are outdated. We are in the process of getting new tachometers, which the State Police currently uses. Recently we were able to pull over 20 cars in a 3 to 4 hour period.

Our CIMT has been busy this month assisting several police departments with the recent suicide of a retired Salem Police Lieutenant. We also offered our services to the NH State Police due to a recent suicide of one of their officers, but they declined.

On June 16th Officers Reamer, Vincent, Douglas, Belsito, Carew, Othot and Sergeants McConnell and Gilbert did a phenomenal job on a reckless conduct arrest.

Last year around this time we had a total of 88 complaints regarding fireworks. This year to date we have had 355 calls. We have asked sector cars to stay in certain areas during certain time frames and have seen a decrease in calls.

We are about to implement an improved protocol in the Booking process. During the Accreditation review it was recommended that we update our questionnaire in booking to include more questions regarding mental health.

Alderman Dowd mentioned that there is excessive noise on Main Dunstable Road near the fields on Friday nights.

Deputy Chief James Testaverde reported the following:

Detectives:

Last year to date there were 25 shootings. This year we have seen a 240% increase. We have 12 cases involving shootings solved, 12 under investigation and 1 case with a good suspect close to arrest.

Detectives Rayho and Rousseau are doing a phenomenal job with arresting sex offenders. Officer Rousseau has arrested 3 individuals in two days for compliance violations.

The POP Unit has recently had 62 arrests, 49 of the arrests were on a felony level. This involved completing 10 search warrants, which are time consuming for officers unfamiliar with this detective process, but great work experience.

Professional Standards:

We are hiring 3 officers Friday and another 2 officers on Monday. This will leave us down 2 officers. This includes Officer Murphy who retires in September. One year ago we were down 20-22 officers. Captain Fay and his team have done an excellent job of filling the positions without compromising on our standards. We also have officers that have been given conditional offers and are still available to hire within the year if needed.

Legal:

The Legal department is working well with their new systems in place. They have a very large case load due to the Covid shutdown.

Services:

A new custodian will be starting next week to bring our Building Maintenance division to full staff. We are still down 2 Communication Technicians, but that is an improvement from being down 12 last year. The Covid shut down has also affected our HVAC project. The project should have started by September and we will still have not gone out to bid. The companies that we are dealing with are still working remotely.

MOTION: Commissioner Plante made a motion to accept the activity report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dahl. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC & OTHER AGENCIES:

Chief Carignan gave the Commissioners an overview of letters of appreciation received from the public and outside agencies including the following:

- Wilton Police Department- Officer Clancy
- Wilton Police Department- Officer French
- Citizen-Officer Debisz
- Citizen-Officer Debisz
- Citizen-Thank you
- Citizen- Thank you
- Citizen- Thank you
- Peters of Nashua-Thank you
- Citizen- Apology (Officers Foss, Yager, and Friend)
- Citizen-Thank you
- Citizen-Thank you
- Citizen-Thank you

MOTION: Commissioner Dahl made a motion to accept the correspondence. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Plante. All in favor.

AWARD:

For the record:

Sergeant Caleb Gilbert- V.F.W. Officer of the Year 2019

SWORN NEW HIRES:

For the record:

Effective July 31, 2020- 1st Year Special Officers-Certified II

- Blake Chestna
- Alexander Garcia
- Travis Soucy

Effective August 3, 2020-1st Year Special Officers

- Douglas Aronson
- Gabriel Reyes

CIVILIAN NEW HIRE:

For the record:

Nathon Duvall-Custodian II- effective August 3, 2020

SWORN RESIGNATION:

Zachary Martin, 1st Year Special Officer, effective July 14, 2020.

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner made a motion to accept the resignation of 1st Year Special Officer Zachary Martin effective July 14, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Plante. All in favor.

SWORN RETIREMENT:

Master Patrolman II John Murphy-effective September 1, 2020

MOTION: Commissioner Dahl made a motion to approve the retirement of Master Patrolman II, John Murphy effective September 1, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Plante. All in favor.

CERTIFICATIONS: MASTER PATROLMAN II:

- Effective July 30, 2020: Master Patrolman Kyle Crosson will be certified as a Master Patrolman II.
- Effective August 12, 2020: Master Patrolmen Kevin Delaney, Alexander Gangi, Ryan Jones, Ryan Rooney, Joseph Rousseau, Scott Seroll and Eric Walker will be certified as Master Patrolman II.
- Effective December 15, 2020: Master Patrolman Frank Lombardi will be certified as Master Patrolman II.

MOTION: Commissioner Dahl made a motion to approve the Master Patrolman I certifications. Motion seconded by Commissioner Plante. All in favor.

CERTIFICATIONS: MASTER PATROLMAN I:

- Effective September 4, 2020: Senior Patrolman Ryan MacDonald will be certified as a Master Patrolman I.
- Effective December 19, 2020: Senior Patrolman Corey Gobbi will be certified as Master Patrolman I.

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner made a motion to approve the Master Patrolman I certifications. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dahl. All in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chief Michael Carignan reported the following:

Community Policing Coordinator position:

Ed Lecius will be retiring at the end of this month after 20 years of service. When Ed started there were 6 Crime Watch groups and now there are 29. He was also very involved in Nashua Night Out. Ed had a tremendous knowledge regarding the City of Nashua and its politics. When we fill Ed's position we are looking for the person to take on a different role. We want the role to be more dynamic and mutually support the Senior Relations person.

Mask Ordinance and Enforcement:

In regards to the City Mask Ordinance we are receiving calls from both sides of this issue. The language in the ordinance is very vague so we are working with the City Attorney, Steve Bolton for clarification.

Public Support:

Overall the silent majority is letting us know they support us, which is great to see. Unfortunately they are not public about their support. Currently there is a Governor's Commission holding hearings to look into law enforcement practices within the state.

A retired police officer, Tony Pivero spoke against the agency yesterday, but did more damage to himself than the agency. The Association for the Chiefs of Police (ACP) are currently creating a letter to address the current issues with law enforcement.

The Nashua Police Department stands out in NH for our CALEA Accreditation, hiring practices, and training to name a few. We also have support from the Alderman.

We have been able to respond to the public's Use of Force questions quickly because of the currently policies we have in place.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

TENTATIVE DATE OF NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING:

- Monday, September 28, 2020, at 5:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner made a motion to end the public session and enter the non-public session. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dahl.

Time: 8:18 am

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MINUTES NOT SEALED

PUBLIC SESSION INTO NONPUBLIC SESSION: 8:21 am

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner asked for a motion by roll call vote to **suspend** the public session and enter non-public session as authorized by:

Item #1:

A. RSA 91-A: 3, II (a). "The dismissal, promotion, or compensations of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted."

Motion by Commissioner Dahl seconded by Commissioner Plante.

A roll call vote was taken:

- Commissioner Tollner – yes; Commissioner Dahl – yes; Commissioner Plante – yes

Teamsters Contract

END OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

MOTION: Commissioner Tollner made a motion to end the non-public session and adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dahl.

TIME: 8:28 am

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Nicholas Dahl, Clerk