



**BROWNSBURG METROPOLITAN
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Joseph A. Grimes
Chief of Police

Office: (317) 852-1109
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BROWNSBURG POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES

These are the Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Brownsburg Police Commission held at the Brownsburg Town Hall December 11, 2018 at 6:00PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Spencer, Terry Smith, Ray Kotarski and Paul Whalen

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Joseph Grimes, Major Andy Watts, Major Bryan Fultz, Attorney Jayson Marksberry and Secretary Kellie Cummins

ABSENT: Dennis Dawes

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

Roll Call was conducted and a quorum was formed. Commissioner Dawes was absent.

Don Spencer requested a motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Paul Whalen made a motion to approve the agenda as stated. Terry Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Don Spencer requested a motion to approve the minutes from the November 13th Police Commission meeting. Paul Whalen made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ray Kotarski seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Don Spencer requested a motion to approve the budgetary posting journal dated December 1, 2018. Terry Smith made a motion to approve the report as submitted. Paul Whalen seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Board of Police Commissioners

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Dennis Dawes
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OLD BUSINESS
CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Grimes updated the commissioners on the current hiring process and timeline. Chief stated 30 candidates had been invited to the background phase of the process. Initially through the background investigation we have already lost five candidates. Backgrounds will be completed on the remaining 25 by January 14th. The remaining candidates will be tentatively slated for Executive Interviews set for January 22nd of 2019. Chief stated with the current timeline conditional offers are expected to be made by the February 12th PC meeting. Presentations for conditional offers will be made. Chief said this is for three new officers based upon our budgetary approval for 2019. They are not replacement officers, they are new, and will bring our agency up to 49 full time sworn personnel.

Chief Grimes stated due to clerical issues that have occurred between the agency and INPRS (Indiana Public Retirement System) There has been a delay for new hire Colin O'Marro in his application to INPRS. We are still anticipating his hire date to be after the first of the year. We are hoping to get documentation returned from INPRS so that he can in turn give his current employer proper notification of departure.

Chief Grimes said he was advised by staff that the Christmas Under the Stars parade was well attended by participants as well several entries in the parade. Chief stated the route was not the idea route but worked well considering the construction on North Green Street. Next year it should be back to the normal route.

OLD BUSINESS
COMMISSION

Nothing to report.

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NEW BUSINESS
CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Grimes asked Major Watts, ERT Commander, to inform the commissioners of recent ERT deployments the past month. Major Watts state the ERT division as pretty busy in November. On the 19th they were activated twice for two separate Search Warrants under the same case that was being actively worked by UDTF and DEA. The two Search Warrants yielded a significant gathering of evidence and confiscated items; approximately \$75,000 in currency was removed from the residence as well as 2 kilos of fentanyl, 2 ½ kilos of heroin, and 125 grams of cocaine, 200 ecstasy pills and 34 grams of crack cocaine, as well as two assault rifles that were fully loaded. Major stated the next evening they were activated again for a separate arrest warrant that they had staged for, on their way to the location they were cancelled. They subject left the residence and was stopped and arrested. Major Watts said that just last night they were activated for another arrest warrant in Brownsburg. This arrested did not yield anything but was still an activation that required the officers to meet and position them mentally and physically and be present. Major Watts said for a small team four major deployments in less than three weeks is substantial. Major stated he is proud of the team they are doing an excellent job and do everything they are asked to do. Apprehensions and arrests were made on the first two activations. Paul Whalen stated all the commissioners are very proud of them. Chief Grimes stated that he greatly appreciates and the men and women that are part of this type of unit. It is something they take great pride in and there is a lot of a need for continuing education and training. Chief said he has received a proposal from Major Watts in regards to consideration to the future of staffing and additional training hours that will be looked at in the next several weeks. Don Spencer asked if there was another agency in the county that has an APC (Armored Personnel Carriers). Chief stated no, the closest agency would be IMPD.

Chief Grimes wanted to make the commission and public aware of two criminal investigations that occurred during the month of November in Brownsburg. Chief said on November 16th Detectives responded to a residence in the Sugar Busch addition, in which a 70 year old male resident had reported to police that he had been shot by his wife. The male victim was

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transported to Eskenazi Hospital where he underwent two emergency surgeries as a result of a gunshot wound he had suffered to his neck and shoulder area. The female has been charged with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, which is a level 3 felony. Charges were accepted and she was incarcerated on charges.

On November 25th road personnel had to call out detectives to respond to the Wendy's on North Green Street in regards to shots fired, which resulted in property damage to the Wendy's. Multiple witnesses were interviewed and surveillance video was observed and obtained for evidence from area businesses by the detective division. The investigation thus far reveals that the shooting was possible involving a pedestrian in a maroon four door passenger car. Chief stated upon further investigation the detectives have located shell casings as well as an unspent round which has been submitted to Indiana State Police Lab. It appears the projectile that damage Wendy's was most likely intended for the occupants of the unidentified vehicle. The investigation is ongoing and still active.

Chief Grimes requested the removal of Sgt. Joe Fults, Cpl. Mike Gill and Cpl. Rob Van from Probationary Status. Each of these personnel has successfully completed their 365 days of probationary period since the time of their promotion to their current ranks. Ray Kotarski made a motion to approve the release from Probationary Status. Paul Whalen seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Grimes explained FirstNet. Chief stated the agency and Executive Staff have been reviewing information in regards to the department's cellular provider as well as the MIFI's that are utilized for the in-car mobile data terminals. FirstNet is a service provider through AT&T and has developed its first Nation Wide Public Safety Broadband Network to provide First Responders advanced communication for job safety and efficiency. Chief explained some of the key reasons they are switching to FirstNet; coverage will extend beyond into rural areas that have less coverage to support Public Safety in emergency situations. Public Safety will have dedicated access to this network in times of crises, their communication needs will come before non-public safety users. FirstNet will also have the ability to use Band14, which is an emergency personnel channel; no other provider other than FirstNet can provide this service. Chief stated this is a service that is needed when the department is working U.S. Nationals.

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The Hendricks County Sheriff's Department has tested this system in Hendricks County and has found better service coverage area by switching to FirstNet. HCSD and Brownsburg Fire Territory have already switched to FirstNet. Chief said the department will eventually see a savings by switching after the initial upstart. New devices will be purchased at the beginning of 2019 and will be reflected on the budgetary report. The cost will even out over the year. We will evaluate the budgeting based upon this level of service next year. The devices will be owned by the department and provided to our personnel as issued equipment.

Chief Grimes said based upon projection, the department will have approximately \$146,000 that may be remaining in the 2018 budget. That is approximately 2.4% of a \$6 million budget. With that being said, after speaking with Staff and Personnel and after observing the type of crime trends the town is dealing with the Staff has identified a need of equipment software and training due to crime trends and vehicle accidents. This product is a Farrow Technology System used in imaging, recording and preserving evidence for accident reconstruction and crime scenes. Chief stated the total cost, including training, is approximately \$50,000. Chief Grimes asked for consent from the commissioners to authorize the Chief of Police to make this purchase as long as available funding remains within our budget as yearend within the Supplies and Service line item. If sufficient funding is not available in Supplies and Services line items the Commission authorizes with their consent for the Chief of Police to seek approval through the Town Council with the aid of the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Manager on an appropriation of funds from other line items within the 2018 budget. If approved to move forward the remaining approximate 2018 budget balance would be \$100,238, which is approximately 1.7% of the overall budget. Chief requested this as a consent item. Don Spencer asked for consent from the commissioners. After discussion each commissioner gave their consent to move forward with the requests. It was a unanimous decision to move forward.

Chief Grimes stated that he wanted to take this time to brag about some of the outstanding officers this department has. Chief said he wanted to recognize Officer Danai, on November 20th, went to check on a young lady and her children. Officer Danai had previously responded for a Call For Service and she took upon herself to go back on a later date in order to follow-up with that family. Not only did she take the initiative to do that, her and her husband, to it upon themselves to take gift cards as well as some other items for the children.

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Chief said this speaks highly of the type of caliber of men and women the commission has selected to be part of this department. In addition to this, Officer Kevin Hyde and his family annually will seek donations from other officers within our department and personnel outside in regards to financial or gifts. They make every attempt to go out and aid other families in need during the holidays. Chief said he and Captain Klayer discussed their hopes were to assist with 12 families and they were able to assist 7-8 families this year. Chief said it's phenomenal what the men and women of this department do to help this community.

Chief said he was just made aware of an incident that happened back in September. Officer Chad Brandon who has been working Interdiction made a traffic stop on the Interstate, which through his skills was able to determine that these individuals had committed multiple thefts of merchandise from outlet malls throughout the United States. The approximate value of the stolen items was approximately \$48,000. Officer Brandon was able to arrest two individuals and he and Sgt. Pyatt were able to identify each of the victims.

NEW BUSINESS COMMISSION

Don Spencer announced the Civilian of the Year award goes to Chris Wingler. Chris was unable to be in attendance. Don Spencer stated he has had the privilege of getting to know Chris over the years through service on the commission and his involvement in town. Don Spencer stated Chris is an exemplary employee and makes the commissioners tasks easily accomplished. Chris works with the Chief and Executive Staff tirelessly on the budget and does an outstanding job.

Terry Smith announced the Reserve Officer of the Year goes to Officer Ryan Rowley. Terry Smith read nominations that were submitted by personnel. Officer Ryan Rowley was present and was presented a plaque from the department.

Don Spencer announced the Operations Officer of the Year goes to Officer Chris Nelson. Don Spencer briefly described the nominations from department personnel that nominated Officer Nelson. Officer Nelson was present to receive his plaque from the department and expressed his appreciation of being part of the Brownsburg Police Department.

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Paul Whalen announced the Support Officer of the Year goes to Cpl. Steve Sentany. Paul Whalen read over Steve's nominations submitted by department personnel. Officer Sentany was present for his plaque presentation.

Ray Kotarski announced the Top Gun Award goes to Sgt. Joe Fults. Sgt. Fults shot a 240/25X. Ray Kotarski presented the plaque to Sgt. Fults.

Chief Grimes requested approval of the updated policies Training and Proficiency 08.02.01 and Selection and Placement 02.34.01. After reading over the amendments and updates Don Spencer requested a motion to approve the policies as presented. Paul Whalen made a motion to approve the policies as presented. Ray Kotarski seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Grimes announced that after the first of the year the department will begin a Reserve recruitment process. The department will be publicizing this through social media as well as other media outlets. Captain Klayer will be holding a meeting on January 17th to make individuals aware of the true criteria that they are govern by based upon department policies and procedures. Chief Grimes stated this is a great idea that Captain Klayer came up with in educating potential candidates.

**DIVISION REPORTS &
MONTHLY STATS**

Don Spencer commented that the Chief of Police conducted a traffic stop last month. Chief Grimes stated it happens sometimes.

**MISCELLANEOUS
CORRESPONDENCE**

Chief Grimes commented on the donation report that is provided to the commissioners. Chief stated many of the divisions and events would not be possible without the donations and support of this community. Chief also stated this is the second year in a row that because of the

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generosity of local businesses and community the department is able to provide an employee appreciation banquet to our employees at no cost. Chief Grimes wanted to say thank you to the community members and our partnerships.

ATTORNEY

Nothing to report.

FLOOR

Don Spencer stated this could be his last potential meeting on the Police Commission. Don stated his service is up at the end of the year and he will be interviewing again for reappointment tomorrow with the Town Council. Don Spencer thanked the commission and Chief.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.

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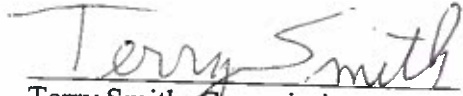
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THESE MINUTES SO APPROVED THIS JANUARY 8TH, 2019.


Terry Smith, Commissioner



Ray Kotarski, Commissioner


Dennis Dawes, Commissioner


Paul Whalen, Commissioner


Allan Bolante, Commissioner

ATTESTED:


Kellie Cummins, Secretary

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